UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

University Center for Economic Development

Fourth Quarter Report
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Prepared by

Thomas R. Harris, Director

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University Center for Economic Development
Department of Resource Economics
University of Nevada, Reno
Mail Stop 204
Reno, NV  89557-0105
775/784-6499
Fax: 775/327-2225
e-mail:  harris@cabnr.unr.edu
Summary: In April 2000, the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno funding cycle began again. Therefore, the quarterly reports start in April. The University Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance in economic development for the fourth quarter of FY 2004-2005. During the fourth quarter, the University Center produced ten applied research projects, nine other research projects, eleven technical and management assistance projects, twelve counseling and referrals, two workshop and one journal article.

Project Mix and Staff: The University Center registered activity in a wide variety of areas and has actively participated in programs throughout the state. The University Center has a staff of Thomas R. Harris, Director; Mike Havercamp, State Extension Mediation and Group Facilitator Specialist; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Associate; Gaylene Nevers, Research Associate; Joan Wright, Graduate Research Assistant; Billye French and Genet Sauer, Administrative Assistants; George “Buddy” W. Borden, Community Development Specialist, is also affiliated with the University Center but is located at the Clark County Cooperative Extension Office in Las Vegas.
Project Summaries

A: Marketing Activities:

University Center continues its technical assistance to agencies interested in marketing and promoting economic development in the state of Nevada. The University Center developed procedures to review and mail to interested populace products developed by the University Center. These products are fact sheets, technical reports, and journal articles. Twenty-five technical reports were published during the first, second, and third fiscal year 2004-2005 by the University Center. Two workshops were presented by the University Center for presentation of economic data and results of past projects.

The Center is currently maintaining a web page. The address is http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced. From this web page, a person will be able to access and download past University Center Technical Reports, Regional Economic Information System data developed by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for the state of Nevada in its seventeen counties and selected historical and current economic data from various state agencies. The web site has been upgraded to a database-driven format and Nevada state agency data may be defined for download using a web form, and are available in a choice of download formats. Links to other key sites can also be found. The site is constantly being updated with reports and new data sets. University Center Technical Bulletins for 1995 through 2004 are currently online in Adobe PDF format.

B. Applied Research:

1. Client: State of Nevada Military Advocacy Commission

   Location: State of Nevada

   Nature of Project: Request by State of Nevada Military Advocacy Commission to estimate economic impacts of military base operations on the economy of the state of Nevada. Results will be used to address Base Realignment and Closure issues.

   Action: Socio-economic data was collected pertaining to Nevada military bases. Once data were collected impacts was estimated and a report written for the Nevada Military Advocacy Commission. Also, cluster economic development strategies with military bases were discussed. (Assignment completed).

2. **Client:** City of Sparks

**Location of Project:** City of Sparks, Rest of Washoe County, and Carson City Labor Market Area, and Northern California.

**Nature of Project:** Manufacturing targeting and cluster study for the city of Sparks and surrounding areas of Washoe County and the Carson City Labor Market Area, and Northern California.

**Action:** An industrial targeting and cluster study was completed specifically for the city of Sparks. Data is currently being collected and analyzed to derive industrial targeting and cluster targets for the Rest of Washoe County Area and the Carson City Labor Market Area, and Northern California. This will produce a regional industrial targeting and cluster targeting analysis. (Assignment continues).

3. **Client:** Eureka County Commissioners

**Location of Project:** Eureka County

**Nature of Project:** Develop a countywide input-output model of Eureka County.

**Action:** Firm level data has been collected and a first draft of the Eureka County input-output model is being developed. (Assignment continues).

4. **Client:** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Nevada, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Missouri, and Oklahoma where chosen as pilot states for a National Rural Health Pilot Project called Operation Rural Health Works.

**Action:** Economic impacts of health care sector on fifteen Nevada economies are currently being calculated. This year’s analysis will employ the new North American Industrial Classification System to derive health care sector impacts and targeting White Pine County for detailed analysis of health care system for this year. Also, a study to derive economic impacts of Nevada’s hospitals is being developed for the Nevada Hospital Association. (Assignment continues).
5. **Client:** Rural Development Centers

**Location of Project:** Rural access of the United States

**Nature of Project:** Development of materials addressing industrial and cluster targeting for rural areas of the U.S.

**Action:** Initial conference held in Orlando and outreach materials and possible granting opportunities are being developed and explored. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Rural Nevada

**Location of Project:** Mountain States

**Nature of Project:** Develop a location model to estimate probabilities of Location of a given manufacturing and/or commercial sector industry.

**Action:** County Business Pattern data are being collected for the Mountain States to estimate the number of firms by industrial classification. Business count and socio-economic data will be employed to develop a model to estimate probability of location for a given economic sector in a given county. A presented paper for the 2005 Southern Regional Science Association meetings is being developed from initial research findings. (Assignment continues.)

7. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center

**Location of Project:** Western States of the Nation

**Nature of Project:** Western States of Nevada, Montana, and Hawaii are developing a model to match businesses with community economic development preferences.

**Action:** Proposal drafted to develop a regional industrial targeting program and community-business matching computer program. This proposal has been accepted by the Western Rural Development Center. (Assignment continues.)
8. **Client:** Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station  

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of location factors for biotechnology firms at the state level. Also economic impacts of the biotechnology firms in Nevada are being estimated.  

**Action:** Location data collected and initial findings presented to a biotechnology workshop sponsored by the Dean of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources at the University of Nevada, Reno. Also questionnaire is being developed to send to biotechnology firms in the State of Nevada. (Assignment continues.)  

9. **Client:** Bureau of Reclamation  

**Location of Project:** Truckee Meadows Area  

**Nature of Project:** Develop a proposal to update the Truckee Meadows input-output model for the Bureau of Reclamation.  

**Action:** A proposal has been developed for application to the Bureau of Reclamation once the proposal is accepted. An update of the Truckee Meadows input-output model will begin. (Assignment Continues).  

10. **Client:** Nevada Hospital Association  

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to the economic impact of hospitals on the Nevada economy.  

**Action:** Impacts have been estimated and publication is being drafted. (Assignment Continues).
C. Other Research Projects:

1. **Client:** Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission

   **Location of Project:** Truckee Meadows Area of Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Develop data as requested on the Washoe County and surrounding area as to economic growth in the Truckee Meadows Area.

   **Action:** Collect and analyzed data and send results as requested to the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission. (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona

   **Location of Project:** Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona.

   **Nature of Project:** The regional economy continues to be interested in understanding economic linkages between bordering communities. Previous center programs and studies have significantly helped the regional economy grow and prosper with industry/employment expansion. The regional economy is now ready for an update to previous programs and studies. The Center has been requested to update socio-economic profiles, input-output models, and household expenditures. A secondary program will be constructed over the next year that will focus on economic development targeted industry and diversification. In the next two months a research proposal will be developed and submitted to conduct this work in 2005.

   **Action:** Specific action will include collection of primary and secondary community data for use of socio-economic profiles, input-output regional models, and targeted industry analysis. In addition, community planning processes will be conducted. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client:** Lyon County Commissioners

   **Location of Project:** Lyon County

   **Nature of Project:** Complete a feasibility study of a proposed national wild horse and burro interpretative center in Lyon County, Nevada.

   **Action:** University Center working with Lyon County Commissioners in developing and completing feasibility study of the proposed national wild horse and burro interpretative center in Lyon County. Also questionnaire of wild horse and burro adapters being developed. Results will be used to determine if adoptions would be greater if an Interpretation Center existed. (Assignment continues.)
4. **Client:** Nevada Rural Development Council  

**Location of Project:** Rural Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Develop a web page for the Nevada Rural Development Council.  

**Action:** A web page has initially been developed for the Nevada Rural Development Council. Web page is being expanded. The website is currently Hosted by the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources at: http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced/nevrdc/ (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** State Emergency Medical System Project  

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Development and implementation of an EMS spreadsheet return/cost program.  

**Action:** Initiated an application of EMS analysis in Eureka County. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Nevada Association of Counties and Nevada Farm Bureau.  

**Location of Project:** Northern Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Feasibility analysis of potential livestock processing plant in Northeast Nevada.  

**Action:** Initiated discussions and a feasibility analysis of potential livestock processing plant in northeastern Nevada. A value added grant for possible funding by USDA is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

7. **Client:** Nevada Wildland Seed Producers Association  

**Location of Project:** Rural Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Develop a web page for the Nevada Wildland Seed Producers Association  

**Action:** UCED has been engaged to develop a web page to market and inform users of native seed products and services provided by the Nevada Department of Agriculture and the association of growers. Finalization of what is to be developed is still in committee with the Nevada Wildland Seed Producers
Association. The website will be hosted initially by the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources with relocation after development to a third-party server with purchase of an association domain. (Assignment continues).

8. **Client:** Carson City Government

   **Location of Project:** Carson City, Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Collect socio-economic data for Carson City and develop a publication that analyzes the trends in socio-economic data.

   **Action:** Proposal was drafted and initially accepted by Carson City government. With formal notification data gathering and analysis will be initiated. (Assignment continues).

9. **Client:** Eureka County

   **Location of Project:** Eureka, Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Request for investment analysis for possible wind generators for groundwater pumping for Diamond Valley Hay Growers.

   **Action:** Initial grant drafted for Governor’s Energy Office to develop a microcomputer feasibility model for wind generation analysis. Also collecting data for specific capital budgeting analysis for wind generation in Diamond Valley. (Assignment continues)

D. **Technical and Management Assistance Projects:**

1. **Client:** City of Wells, Nevada

   **Location of Client:** Wells, Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Request to estimate local unemployment rate for Wells, Nevada.

   **Action:** A labor questionnaire for the City of Wells was developed and implemented. Unemployment data from the questionnaire was calculated and a memorandum report on the questionnaire results were submitted to the State of Nevada Economic Development Representation Results of the unemployment analysis will be incorporated into a report to be submitted by the City of Wells. (Assignment continues).
2. **Client:** City of Mesquite, Nevada

   **Location of Project:** Mesquite, Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Request for assistance to estimate unemployment rate and underemployment in Mesquite, Nevada. Questionnaire is currently being implemented. The University Center is current analyzing the data for the City of Wells.

   **Action:** University Center personnel working with City of Mesquite personnel have developed a questionnaire for Mesquite, Nevada to estimate local unemployment rate and underemployment. (Assignment continues).

3. **Client:** Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources

   **Location of Project:** University of Nevada, Reno

   **Nature of Project:** Development of Agricultural Innovative Center Grant.

   **Action:** The University Center assisted the Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources in developing initial draft of a regional Agricultural Innovative Center. (Assignment continues).

4. **Client:** Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources

   **Location of Project:** University of Nevada, Reno

   **Nature of Project:** Development of web-based interactive database to manage projects funded by the Great Basin Cooperative Extension Studies Unit.

   **Action:** The University Center assisted the Dean’s Office of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources will maintain the existing website and develop a web-interactive project initiation and management database for use by partner institutions (land management agencies). (Assignment continues.)
5. **Client:** Elko Economic Development Authority

**Location of Project:** Elko County, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Request for assistance to derive business relocation opportunities in Northeastern Nevada and Utah.

**Action:** Data is being collected. Once collected, an analysis will indicate relocation opportunity for Elko Nevada. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Humboldt County

**Location of Project:** Humboldt County

**Nature of Project:** Request for socio-economic data and analysis for use in the county economic development strategy (CEDS).

**Action:** Socio-economic data is being collected and analyzed. A set of five University Center Technical bulletins are being developed for the Humboldt County CEDS. (Assignment continues).


7. **Client:** Moapa Valley, Nevada

   **Location of Project:** Moapa Valley

   **Nature of Project:** Provide ongoing technical assistance to community-organized strategic planning committee. This committee was assembled over two years ago.

   **Action:** Planning Committee has been meeting regularly and the University Center has provided information and analysis as requested. (Assignment continues).

8. **Client:** Cooperative Extension

   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Extension publication or in-communities and out-communities for the state of Nevada and the seventeen counties.

   **Action:** In-communities and out communities data being collected at the state and county level. An University Technical report is being completed. (Assignment continues).

9. **Client:** Nevada Youth Entrepreneurship Project

   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Request to set up compressed video to discuss youth entrepreneurship program.

   **Action:** Compressed video programs being scheduled (assignment continues).
10. **Client:** Nevada Rural Development Council  
   **Location:** Minden, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Assist in the program development for the Rural Summit.  
   **Action:** Continue to assist in the formulation of a program for the Rural Nevada Summit. (Assignment continues).

11. **Client:** Southern Rural Development Center  
   **Location of Project:** Atlanta, Georgia  
   **Nature of Project:** Reviewed applications for extension e-commerce funding by USDA and the Southern Rural Development Center.  
   **Action:** Proposals were reviewed and review sent to the Director of the Southern Rural Development Center. (Assignment completed).

E. **Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** State of Nevada Commission on Economic Development  
   **Locations of Project:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Request information as to residential, industrial and agricultural water use.  
   **Action:** Data was collected and sent on industrial, residential, and agricultural water use to the Nevada Commission and Economic Development. (Assignment Completed).

2. **Client:** Aladdin Hotel and Casino  
   **Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information as to the amount of economic and governmental revenue generated by a casino/hotel room.  
   **Action:** Data collected, analysis completed, and sent to the Aladdin Hotel/Casino. (Assignment completed).
3. **Client**: Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University  

   **Location of Project**: State of Nevada  

   **Nature of Project**: Requested information about publication which estimated adoption rates for vaccine by Nevada ranchers.  

   **Action**: Publication copied and sent to Michigan State. (Assignment completed).

4. **Client**: State of Nevada Public Utilities Commission  

   **Location of Project**: Washoe County  

   **Nature of Project**: Requested input-output multiplier for construction and operation of an electric power generating plant.  

   **Action**: Construction and operation multipliers for an electric power plant in Washoe County were collected and sent to the Nevada Public Utilities Commission.

5. **Client**: Market Analysis Firm  

   **Location of Project**: Carson City  

   **Nature of Project**: Requested information as to difference in place of work and place of residence employment.  

   **Action**: A memorandum was drafted and sent explaining differences in Place of work and place of residence employment. (Assignment completed).

6. **Client**: Bureau of Labor Statistics  

   **Location of Project**: U.S.  

   **Nature of Project**: Requested information on the calculation of shift share analysis.  

   **Action**: A memorandum was developed and sent to BLS explaining the procedure of shift-share analysis. (Assignment Completed).
7. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center  
   **Location of Project:** Western United States  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested copy of San Francisco Federal Reserve article on small business efforts in the West.  
   **Action:** Publication found, copied, and mailed to Western Rural Development Center. (Assignment completed).

8. **Client:** City of Gabbs  
   **Location of Project:** City of Gabbs  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information as to federal agencies to apply system upgrade. (Assignment Completed).  
   **Action:** List of federal agencies sent to the city of Gabbs. (Assignment Completed).

9. **Client:** Nevada County Economic Development Authorities.  
   **Location of Projects:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Sent information and application materials concerning MBA internships Bridges Program  
   **Action:** Information sent to all Nevada economic development authorities (Assignment completed).

10. **Client:** Lander County Economic Development Authority  
    **Location of Project:** Lander County  
    **Nature of Project:** Requested information on doing feasibility.  
    **Action:** Sent university center bulletin on feasibility of dairies to Lander County, (Assignment completed).

11. **Client:** Utah State University  
    **Location of Project:** State of Utah  
    **Nature of Project:** Requested information on estimation of demand this holds for rural commercial sector.
Action: Sent University Center Technical bulletin covering minimum commercial sector demand threshold. (Assignment Completed).


Location of Project: Esmeralda, Mineral and Northern Nye Counties

Nature of Project: Requested economic and employment multipliers for Esmeralda, Mineral, and Northern Nye counties.

Action: Economic and employment multipliers for Esmeralda, Mineral, and Northern Nye counties estimated and mailed. (Assignment Continues).

F. Workshops and Seminars:

1. Client: Cities of Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona

Location of Workshop: Laughlin, Nevada

Nature of Workshop: Discussion of growth in Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Nevada and Economic Development Administration programs.

Action: Workshop held and potential EDA programs outlined. (Assignment completed).

2. Client: Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU)

Location of Workshop: Las Vegas, Nevada

Nature of Workshop: Annual Workshop to discuss upcoming research programs under CESU.

Action: Workshop held in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Assignment completed).

G. Technical Presentations and Lectures by University Center Staff

H. Journal Articles and Fact Sheets:

1. Published Journal Article


Fadali, Elizabeth, Thomas R. Harris, Buddy Borden, and Mike Havercamp. “Socio-Economic Profile for East and West Lincoln County Study Areas.” April 2004, UCED 2004/05-05.


