University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Fourth Quarter Report
For the Period
1 January 2006 to 31 March 2006
Prepared by

Thomas R. Harris, Director

For

Economic Development Administration
Grant No. 07-66-05671

April 2006

University Center for Economic Development
Department of Resource Economics
Mail Stop 204
Reno, NV  89557-00105
775/784-0105
Fax: 775/327-2225
Email: harris@cabnr.unr.edu
Summary: In April 2000, the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno changed its funding cycle to begin on the month of April. Therefore, the quarterly reports after 2000 start in the month of April. The University Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance on economic development for the fourth quarter of FY 2005-2006. During the fourth quarter, the University Center produced seven applied research projects, four other research projects, seven technical and management assistance projects, thirteen counseling and referrals, six workshops, two technical presentations, and one cooperative extension fact sheet that is under review.

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; Shannon Price, Research Associate; John 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. Four technical reports were published during the fourth quarter fiscal year 2005-2006 by the University Center. Six workshops were presented by the University Center for presentation of economic data and results of past projects. One regional presentation was made by the University Center Director.

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 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 2005 are currently online in Adobe PDF format.

B. Applied Research:

1. Client: Nevada Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Estimate the economic impacts of graduates of the WICHE program on the state of Nevada economy. For example, the state of Nevada does not have a School of Veterinary Medicine. Students from Nevada apply to go to out of state Veterinary Schools through the WICHE program. Students must after graduation work in assigned areas of the state as repayment for the WICHE program.

Action: Data is being collected as to location of WICHE graduates in the state of Nevada and their professions. An economic impact analysis will be completed to estimate impacts of an area with and without a WICHE graduate in their locality. (Assignment Continues).
2. **Client:** Humboldt General Hospital  

**Location of Project:** Winnemucca, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Requested a feasibility study be completed to analyze proposed kidney dialysis suite.  

**Action:** Data to complete a feasibility study to analyze a proposed kidney dialysis ward for Humboldt General Hospital was collected and feasibility study completed. Results of feasibility study were personated to executive committee of Humboldt General Hospital. (Assignment Completed).  


3. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada, Bullhead City, Arizona, and areas surrounding these communities.  

**Location of Project:** Border Economy of Nevada and Arizona  

**Nature of Project:** Potential closure of Mohave Electric Generating Plant.  

**Action:** Development of an inter-regional input-output model of the Laughlin, Nevada; Bullhead City, Arizona, and Border Areas of Arizona on the potential economic impacts of the closure of the Mohave Electric Generating Power Plant. Also mitigation strategies will be developed in the study. (Assignment Continues).

4. **Client:** Bureau of Reclamation  

**Location of Project:** Truckee Meadows Area  

**Nature of Project:** To update the Truckee Meadows input-output model for the Bureau of Reclamation.  

**Action:** The Truckee Meadows input-output model for the Truckee Meadows Operating Agreement was updated and a user’s manual development. Model and user’s manual sent to U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. (Assignment Completed).  

5. **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 analysis run an initial econometric model developed and a paper presented at the 9th International Conference on Agricultural Biotechnology: Ten Years After, organized by the International Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology Research in Ravello, Italy. Paper titled as Harris, Thomas R., J. Scott Shonkwiler, Laura Nalle, and Slavica Karastankovic. “Findings of Locational Determinants of Biotechnology Firms at the State Level”. Additional analysis to estimate factors causing change in biotechnology firm numbers is being developed. (Assignment Continues).

6. **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:** A proposal has been accepted for a second year of funding by the Western Rural Development Center and work on the CBM model development is underway. (Assignment Continues)

7. **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 were 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 county level health care sector impacts. (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. A research proposal was accepted for continued work through 2005 and 2006.

   **Action:** A University Center Technical Bulletin was published which analyzed socio-economic trends in Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona. Also work is currently underway to analyze socio-economic impacts of the potential closure of The Mohave Power Plant. (Assignment Continues).


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

   **Location of Project:** Rural Nevada

   **Nature of Project:** Develop a web page for the Nevada Wild Land 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).

4. Client: Lincoln County Economic Development Authority

Location of Project: Lincoln and White Pine Counties of Nevada.

Nature of Project: Estimate potential industrial uses of pinyon-juniper chip industry in Lincoln County.

Action: Alternation industrial uses of pinion-juniper resources in Lincoln and White Pine counties were estimated and analyzed. A University Center publication was developed (Assignment Completed).


D. Technical and Management Assistance Projects:

1. Client: Reno Downtown Redevelopment

Location of Project: City of Reno

Nature of Project: Assist the City of Reno in developing a strategic plan for Downtown Redevelopment.

Action: Developing a strategic economic development program with officials of Reno Downtown Redevelopment (Assignment Continues).

2. Client: City of Yerington

Location of Project: Yerington, Nevada

Nature of Project: Assist the City of Yerington in developing a strategic plan for economic development in Yerington.

Action: A community forum was held in Yerington, Nevada. Information from the forum will be used by Yerington community for their strategic plan. (Assignment Completed).
3. **Client:** National Extension  

**Location of Project:** Nationally  

**Nature of Project:** The USDA National extension Service has developed a program area called eXtension: Entrepreneurship. This will be a national program to develop entrepreneurship extension education tools for the internet.  

**Action:** Initial meeting in Nashville, Tennessee to develop a program this year to outlined entrepreneurship extension materials for the internet. (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:** 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).  

6. **Client:** Cooperative Extension  

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Extension publication or in-commuters and out-commuters for the state of Nevada and the seventeen counties.
Action: In-commuters and out-commuters data being collected at the state and county level. A University Technical report is being completed. (Assignment Continues).

7. 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).

E. Counseling and Referrals:


Location of Project: Black Rock Desert

Nature of Project: Requested assistance as to estimating economic impacts of Burning Man and the economies of Pershing and Humboldt counties.

Action: Compressed video session to show producers to estimate tourism impacts to Bureau of Land Management personnel in Winnemucca, Nevada. (Assignment completed).

2. Client: Walker River Paiute Tribe
Location of Project: Schurz Native American Reservation

Nature of Project: Requested information and procedures to estimate unemployment rate.

Action: Procedures and post questionnaire to estimate unemployment rates were sent to the Walker River Paiute Tribes. (Assignment completed).

3. Client: USDA Natural Resources Division

Location of Project: Reno, Nevada

Nature of Project: Requested copy of Miscellaneous Series publication that estimated range impacts from alternative public land management policies.

Action: Departmental Miscellaneous Series publication was located, copied, and mailed to USDA. (Assignment completed).
4. **Client:** Oak Valley Hospital in California  
**Location of Project:** Oakdale, California  
**Nature of Project:** Administrator for Oak Valley Hospital requested copy of a Nevada county health care sector impacts study.  
**Action:** A Nevada county health care sector impacts study was found and mailed to Oak Valley Hospital. (Assignment completed).

5. **Client:** State of Nevada Department of Agriculture  
**Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information on studies pertaining to Office of Management and Budget study on grazing fees.  
**Action:** Studies discussing the merits of the GAO report were sent to the state of Nevada Department of Agriculture. (Assignment completed).

6. **Client:** Desert Research Institute.  
**Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information on location of a time series of Nevada County unemployment rates.  
**Action:** A time series of Nevada county unemployment rates to the Desert Research Institute. (Assignment completed).

7. **Client:** Nevada Small Business Development Center.  
**Location of Project:** Susanville, California  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information or the use of IMPLAN to derive economic impacts of alternative funds.  
**Action:** Procedures to estimate alternative funds impacts on the Susanville economy using IMPLAN were explained and shown. (Assignment completed).
8. **Client:** Lincoln County

**Location of Project:** Lincoln County

**Nature of Presentation:** Set up compressed video conference with Lincoln County and MBA students and their semester tourism marketing study for Lincoln County.

**Action:** Compressed video session held between Lincoln County and MBA Student. (Assignment completed).

9. **Client:** U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

**Location of Project:** Truckee Meadows Area

**Nature of Project:** U.S. Bureau of Reclamation requested county employment and income data for the Truckee Meadows Area.

**Action:** County employment and income data for the Truckee Meadows Area was sent to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. (Assignment completed).

10. **Client:** Nevada Rural Development Council

**Location of Project:** Rural Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Request for information as to rural leadership programs.

**Action:** Information as to different state leadership programs was collected and sent to Nevada Rural Development Council. (Assignment completed).

11. **Client:** Lincoln County

**Location of Project:** Lincoln County

**Nature of Project:** Request for names of people to analyze water flow monitoring in Lincoln County.

**Action:** Names collected and sent to Lincoln County. (Assignment completed).
12. **Client:** Lincoln County Regional Economic Development Authority

**Location of Project:** Lincoln County

**Nature of Project:** Relayed name of Montana industry that maybe interested in Lincoln County Pinyon-juniper residue.

**Action:** Name of Montana industry relayed to the Lincoln County Regional Economic Development Authority. (Assessment completed).

13. **Client:** Humboldt County

**Location of Project:** Humboldt County

**Nature of Project:** Request for population data in Humboldt County

**Action:** Population data collected and sent to Humboldt County. (Assignment completed).

14. **Client:** Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada

**Location of Project:** Washoe County

**Nature of Project:** Discussion of potential joint projects from Angelou Economics Study.

**Action:** Meeting was held and potential studies discussed. (Assignment completed).

15. **Client:** Mineral County Economic Development Authority

**Location of Project:** Hawthorne, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Requested copy of Nevada military installation impact study and Mineral County geothermal resource information

**Action:** Copy of Nevada military installation impacts study and report on Mineral County geothermal resources sent to Mineral County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment completed).
F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** City of Yerington  
   **Location of Workshops:** City of Yerington  
   **Nature of Workshop:** An overview of strategic planning and socio-economic trends which was used for public input to Yerington Community Strategic Economic Development program.  
   **Action:** Workshop presented in Yerington and citizen input given to Community of Yerington. (Assignment completed).

2. **Client:** City of Reno Redevelopment Office  
   **Location of Workshop:** City of Reno Redevelopment Office  
   **Nature of Workshop:** Presentation made of strategic planning process to offices of Reno Redevelopment.  
   **Action:** Presentation made and a city wide strategic economic development planning model is currently underway. (Assignment completed).

3. **Client:** Lincoln County Commissioners  
   **Location of Workshop:** Lincoln County Courthouse in Pioche, Nevada  
   **Nature of Workshop:** Overview presentation of Lincoln County Tourism Strategic Plan.  
   **Action:** Presentation of Lincoln County Tourism Strategic Plan was made to Lincoln County Commissioners, (Assignment completed).

4. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona  
   **Location of Workshop:** Bullhead City, Arizona  
   **Nature of Workshop:** Meeting to discuss possible EDA grant to analyze socio-economic impacts of closure of the Mohave Power Plant.  
   **Action:** Richard Tremblay made a presentation as various EDA grants that may be application to the closing of the Mohave Power Plant. A technical assistance grant is currently being drafted. (Assignment completed).
5. **Client:** Humboldt General Hospital

**Location of Workshop:** Winnemucca, Nevada

**Nature of Workshop:** Presentation of results of a feasibility study of a potential Kidney dialysis center in Humboldt General Hospital.

**Action:** Presentation made to Board of Directors of Humboldt General Hospital. (Assignment Completed).

6. **Client:** State of Nevada

**Location of Workshop:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Workshop:** University of Nevada Cooperative Extension workshop called “Nevada Grown Connections: From Farm to Market” Presented workshop on agritourism.

**Action:** Made presentation on agritourism as a business to diversify ranch and farm enterprise. Workshop called “Agritourism: The New Alternative Enterprise.” (Assignment completed).

G. **Technical Presentation and Lectures by University Center Staff:**

1. **Client:** Western Regional Science Association Meeting

**Location of Presentations:** Santa Fe, New Mexico

**Nature of Presentations:** Two selected papers were presented at the WRSA meetings.

**Action:** Two papers presented are listed below. (Assignment completed).

a) Fadali, Elizabeth; Thomas R. Harris; and William W. Riggs. “Development of Hybrid Input-Output Model to Estimate Impacts of Range Cattle Sector in Eureka County, Nevada”.

b) Harris, Thomas R.; Slavica Vusovic; and J Scott Shonkwiler.” Initial Findings of Locational Determinant of Biotechnology Firms at the State Level”.


2. **Client:** Friends and Alumni of the College of Agriculture biotechnology, and Natural Resources

**Location of Presentations:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Presentations:** Presentation of feasibility study on wine grape production in Churchill County, Nevada.

**Action:** Presentation to dinner of Friends and Alumni of the College of Agriculture Biotechnology, and Natural Resources. (Assignment completed).

H. **Journal Articles and Fact Sheets:**

Harris, Thomas R., Robert Dick, and Joan Wright. “Incubators as a Potential Local Economic Development Tool”. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet. Accepted.
UNIVERSITY CENTER TECHNICAL REPORTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005/06


Harris, Thomas R., Alison Davis, Elizabeth Fadali, Gaylene Nevers, Joan Wright, Simona Balazs and Slavica Karastankovic. “Identifying the Economic Drivers and Import Substitution Opportunities for the Western Nevada Study Area with Application to the City of Sparks”, UCED 2005/06-03, June 2005.


Harris, Thomas R., Alison Davis, Elizabeth Fadali, Gaylene Nevers, Joan Wright, Simona Balazs, and Slavica Karastankovic. “Identifying the Economic Drivers and Import Substitution Opportunities for the Western Nevada Study Area with Applications to the City of Sparks: Executive Summary”, UCED 2005/06-06, September 2005.


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