University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

First Quarter Report
For the Period
1 July to 30 September 2018

Prepared by
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for

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Summary: In June 2006, the Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno changed its funding cycle to begin in the month of June. Therefore, the quarterly reports after 2006 start with the month of June. Also in 2011 because of fiscal crisis in the state of Nevada and the University of Nevada, Reno, the University Center was transferred from the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources to the School of Business. The University Center still is actively engaged and funded by the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station and the Nevada Cooperative Extension. The Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance on economic development for the First quarter of FY 2018-2019. During the First quarter, the University Center produced eight applied research projects, fourteen other research projects, ten technical and management assistance projects, three counseling and referrals, two workshops, two technical presentation, five University Center technical reports, and two journal articles 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, Professor in the Department of Economics, State Extension Specialist, and Director of the Center for Economic Development; Kimberly Rollins, Associate Professor in the Department of Economics; Fred Steinmann, Assistant Research Professor in the College of Business; Malieka Landis, Research Manager; Mike Helmar, Research Manager; Richard Bartholet, Research Associate; Brian Bonnenfant for the Center of Regional Studies for GIS work; Ethan Grumstrup, Graduate Research Associate in the Department of Economics, and George (Buddy) W. Borden, Community Development Specialist, who is affiliated with the University Center but is located at the Clark County Cooperative Extension Office in Las Vegas, and Marie Dennis, Administrative Assistant.
Project Summaries

A: Marketing Activities:

The 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, journal articles, and technical reports were published during the First quarter of Fiscal Year 2018/2019 by the University Center. Three workshops, two technical presentation, two journal articles under review, and five University Center technical reports published. The University Center currently maintains a Facebook page the address is, https://www.facebook.com/pages/University-Center-for-Economic-Development-UNR/1421366588119408, and a Web page at this address, http://www.unr.edu/business/research-and-outreach/uced. From this Web page, a person can access and download past University Center technical reports, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension fact sheets relating to University Center projects, Regional Economic Information System data developed by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for the state of Nevada and its seventeen counties, and selected historical and current economic data from various state agencies. Links to other key sites can also be found. The site is continuously being updated with reports and new data sets. University Center technical bulletins from 1992 up to the current date are available to download in Adobe PDF format.

As part of the Center’s efforts to reach out to a broader audience, a Facebook page for the Nevada Leadership Program was launched in October 2014. The address is https://www.facebook.com/NevadaLeadershipInstitute?ref=hl. From the Nevada Leadership Program’s Facebook page, interested parties can get information on upcoming training workshops and professional development opportunities offered by the Nevada Leadership Program. An “Archives & Resources” page on the Nevada Leadership Program’s website also houses previous publications, links to partner organizations, and material for past workshops and conferences hosted by the Nevada Leadership Program.

B. Applied Research:

1. Client: Western Rural Development Center

Location of Project: Western States of the Nation

Nature of Project: A US Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) four-year grant titled Area Sector Analysis Process (ASAP) is in the second year.

Action: ASAP has been implemented in Arizona, California, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah. UCED is currently employing the ASAP program for Hopi Tribe with an Economic Development Administration grant. Also, ASAP is being applied in Winslow, Arizona, and Utah Counties of Carbon and Emery. (Assignment continues)

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: Developing statewide analysis of hospital impacts to local economics for the Nevada Hospital Association. (Assignment continues.)

3. Client: Nevada Arid Research Institute

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: An initial analysis of trichomoniasis vaccine by Nevada ranchers has been initiated. Alternative trichomoniasis infection reduction management scenarios will be programmed into a whole-ranch simulation model.

Action: A journal article is being developed from a doctoral dissertation on the adoption of trichomoniasis vaccine by Nevada ranchers. (Assignment continues.)


Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: The development proposal for NSF-EPSCoR Solar Nexus Project has been accepted and research has been initiated.

Action: The last of a five-year project is underway. One journal article has been accepted for publication and another article is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

5. Client: State of Nevada

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Investigate growth pattern of entrepreneurship through last two recessions and expansions.

Action: Dynamic shift-share analysis has been completed. A University Center technical report and a journal article are currently being developed. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Develop proposal to drive the feasibility of a native seed industry for the state of Nevada.

Action: Proposal developed and sent to state directors of US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Bureau of Land Management. Initial research findings are being developed into a publication. (Assignment continues).

7: Client: State of Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Estimation of economic and occupational clusters for targeted Advanced Manufacturing cluster.

Action: Cluster study has been completed and University Center technical publication is being developed. Also, occupational targets for advanced manufacturing are being estimated. (Assignment continues).

8: Client: U.S. Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Nevada counties are faced everyday with changing social, economic, and fiscal conditions that can impact future growth and stability. This is why timely and accurate socioeconomic baseline is essential for effective local decision-making, especially when 87 percent of Nevada land is publically owned. This program establishes a strong partnership with public land agencies and local counties to collaboratively develop accurate baseline data sets and impact assessment tools. These resources and tools will aid in the planning and decision-making process that communities are faced every day.

Action: A proposal was developed for funding. U.S. Forest Service has funded its share of project and working with U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Initial data collection and analysis has been initiated. A University Technical bulletin was developed for the EIS. (Assignment continues).

C. Other Research Projects
1. **Client:** Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association; State Land Use Planning Advisory Committee (Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources)

**Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Assist in the revision and writing of a new planning handbook.

**Action:** As part of the Nevada Leadership Program, UCED faculty are working with the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association and the State Land Use Planning Advisory Committee to revise previous planning handbooks designed for planning commissioners and other planning professionals in Nevada. Publication of the 2017 Nevada Planning Guide was completed in May 2017. An electronic copy of the 2017 Nevada Planning Guide has been posted on the website of the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association and the website of the Nevada Leadership Program-University Center for Economic Development. University Center for Economic Development faculty, along with representatives from the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association, have presented hard copies of the 2017 Nevada Planning Guide to every municipal and county planning commission, county commission, and city council in Carson City, Douglas County, Lyon County, Storey County, and Washoe County. University Center for Economic Development faculty and representatives from the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association are now preparing to present a hard copy of the 2017 Nevada Planning Guide to every city council member, county commissioner and municipal and county planning commission in the rest of the state of Nevada. As of January 2018, University Center for Economic Development faculty and representatives from the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association have presented the 2017 Nevada Planning Guide to county commissions, school districts, city councils and planning commissions in Washoe County, Carson City, Douglas County, Storey County and Lyon County. Beginning in May 2018, University Center for Economic Development faculty presented copies of the February 2017 Nevada Planning Guide to various elected and appointed boards in Pershing County, Churchill County, Mineral County, Nye County, Esmeralda County, Humboldt County and Lander County. (Assignment completed)

2. **Client:** Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Estimating budgets for different range livestock operations in the state of Nevada.

**Action:** Production and cost information being collected to develop Nevada range livestock budget. (Assignment continues)

3. **Client:** Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute
**Location of Project:** U.S., Western U.S., and State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:**
This is the annual collaborative project with the University of Missouri providing the FAPRI baseline. Summary tables and the Baseline Briefing Book are on the UCED website.

**Action:** This quarter the emphasis was on updating the international crops model to incorporate changes to Chinese tariffs against U.S. agricultural commodities and to incorporate China’s new ethanol policy.

Econometric estimates of net imports for corn, wheat, and soybeans were completed and incorporated into the model. In addition, weighted tariffs were calculated to estimate the impact of U.S. versus other exporting countries tariffs on the Chinese market.

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**4. Client:** Office of the Chief Economist- USDA

**Location of Project:** Washington, D.C., Michigan State University, and Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Collaborative effort with the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, Michigan State, FAPRI-Missouri and the Office of the Chief Economist- USDA producing alternative scenario for European Union ethanol and biodiesel markets to analyze the impacts of the new Chinese ethanol policy on biofuels markets and prices

**Action:** Comparative qualitative analysis of biofuels market performance during the U.S. ethanol mandate implementation (2006-2015) to what could be expected for the implementation of the Chinese update.

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**5. Client:** Washoe County (Reno)

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada and Western SMSA’s

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of activity of Reno-Sparks SMSA relative to other SMSA’s in Western United States.

**Action:** Data and analysis are being conducted to derive scorecard. A University Center publication is being developed. (Assignment continues)

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**6. Client:** ImMache Livestock Sector Research Funds

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada

**Nature of Project:** Estimation of impacts of reduced grazing allotments on public lands by using Compatible General Equilibrium (CGE) models.
Action: Proposal developed and accepted. The first phase of the project has been completed. The budgets for Basin & Range regions have been collected and updated to reflect 2014-2016 average costs and revenues for the western cow-calf industry.

The second phase of the project is underway. This phase compiles beef cow inventories for each county in the Basin & Range regions and aggregates them to match the geography of each budget. The per bred cow values for each budget are then multiplied by the beef cow numbers corresponding to the area to obtain total costs and revenues. From these direct impacts, a computable general equilibrium model will be employed to estimate total countywide economy impacts. (Assignment continues)

7. Client: National Public Lands Council

Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Estimate the economic impacts of underused AUMS on public lands on Western US economics.

Action: Proposal accepted by Public Lands Council, data collected, analysis completed, and final report being developed. (Assignment continues)

8. Client: Lyon County

Location of Project: Lyon County, Nevada

Nature of Project: A Strategic Plan for Lyon County, Nevada

Action: UCED faculty are currently working with the county government of Lyon County to develop a new five-year strategic plan for Fiscal Year 2018 through Fiscal Year 2022. A series of community workshops will be held to solicit input from the community, elected and appointed officials, and government executives on various aspects of the strategic plan. The first community workshop will be held in Yerington, Nevada on Friday, February 17, 2017 and additional community workshops will be held throughout the county in different locations in the first half of 2017. Several UCED technical reports will be produced and published by UCED faculty and staff summarizing the results of the various community workshops and the final five-year strategic plan for Lyon County for Fiscal Year 2018 through Fiscal Year 2022. As of January 2018, the first round of community strategic planning workshops have been completed and a summary of the first round of workshops is being developed. A second round of community workshops, scheduled to start in March 2018, are currently being development. The second round of community strategic planning workshops, held in Yerington, Nevada, Smith, Nevada, Silver Springs, Nevada, and Dayton, Nevada, were completed in April 2018 and May 2018 and a draft strategic plan has been completed. A third community workshop will be held in Silver Springs, Nevada on August 11, 2018. (Assignment continues)
9. Client: Lincoln County

Location of Project: Lincoln County

Nature of Project: Assisted in development of grant to USDA-Rural Development to estimate potential economic and development opportunities from proposed mountain bike trails in Lincoln County. A report was made and presented.

Action: Proposal developed and was accepted by USDA-Rural Development for funding. Project activity was initiated in June 2017. A final report was drafted and presented to Lincoln County. A review of final report is currently underway. (Assignment continues)

10. Client: City of Fernley

Location of Project: Fernley, Nevada

Nature of Project: Update and revision of the City of Fernley’s Masterplan and Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Action: Through WoodRodgers, Inc., the University Center for Economic Development has been hired to complete a comprehensive update and rewrite of “Chapter 1: Population, Housing and Employment Element” for incorporation into a new Masterplan and Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The final University Center for Economic Development technical report has been prepared, published and delivered to WoodRodgers, Inc. and the City of Fernley. (Assignment completed)

11. Client: Lyon County Library System

Location of Project: Lyon County, Nevada

Nature of Project: A Five-Year Strategic Plan for the Lyon County Library System

Action: The Lyon County Library System has contracted with the University Center for Economic Development to facilitate and complete a new five-year strategic plan. The first strategic planning workshop is scheduled for February 3, 2018 and the second strategic planning workshop is scheduled for March 3, 2018. Two University Center for Economic
Development technical reports have been prepared, published and presented to the Lyon County Library System. The completed strategic plan for the Lyon County Library System, for Fiscal Year 2020 through Fiscal Year 2024, has been presented to the Lyon County Library System Board and the Lyon County Board of County Commissioners and a final review strategic planning community workshop has been scheduled for August 25, 2018 in Silver Springs, Nevada. (Assignment continues)

Steinmann, Frederick A. A Strategic Plan for Lyon County Library for Fiscal Year 2018 Through Fiscal Year 2024: Summary Results of Strategic Planning Community Workshop Number 1. University Center Technical Report 2017/18-13, June 2018

Steinmann, Frederick A. and Jacob Carrico. A Strategic Plan for the Lyon County Library System for Fiscal Year 2020 through Fiscal Year 2024. University Center Technical Report 2017/18-20, April 2018

12. Client: Stonegate

Location of Project: Reno, Nevada

Nature of Project: Assessment and Summary of Active Special Assessment Districts in the State of Nature

Action: The University Center for Economic Development has been contracted by Stonegate, a planned use development project planned for a location in the City of Reno, to complete a comprehensive assessment of all Special Assessment Districts, as defined by Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 271, currently operating throughout the State of Nevada. Stonegate may possibly use this analysis to structure a new Special Assessment District for the Stonegate development to cover infrastructure and maintenance expenses associated with the development. A University Center for Economic Development technical report has been prepared and provided to representatives of Stonegate. (Assignment completed)


13. Client: Reno Elks Lodge #597

Location of Project: Reno, Nevada

Nature of Project: A Strategic Plan for the Reno Elks Lodge #597

Action: The University Center for Economic Development has been contracted by the Reno Elks Lodge #597 to facilitate and develop a five-year strategic plan for the organization. University Center for Economic Development faculty are currently working with representatives from Reno Elks Lodge #597 to schedule two strategic planning workshops that will likely begin in March 2018. The first strategic planning workshop for the Reno Elks Lodge #597 was held on March 10, 2018 and the second strategic planning workshop for the
Reno Elks Lodge #597 was held on June 23, 2018. One University Center for Economic Development technical report summarizing the results of the first workshop has been prepared and published and a second technical report is currently being developed. (Assignment continues)

Steinmann, Frederick A.  A Strategic Plan for the Reno Elks Lodge #597 for Fiscal Year 2020 through Fiscal Year 2025: Summary Results of Strategic Planning Workshop No. I. University Center Technical Report 2017/18-17, April 2018

14. **Client:** Jeffrey Brooks

**Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada

**Nature of Project:** An Analysis of Microgridding and their Potential Application in Nevada

**Action:** The University Center for Economic Development has been contracted by Jeffrey Brooks to complete a comprehensive assessment of the economic feasibility of microgridding in Nevada. The assessment will also include an evaluation of potential barriers in Nevada that may prohibit the successful development of microgridding in Nevada. A University Center for Economic Development technical report will be developed summarizing the results of this analysis. (Assignment continues)

D. **Technical and Management Assistance Projects**

1. **Client:** U.S. Economic Development Administration

**Location of Project:** Idaho Economic Development District Region III

**Nature of Project:** Review of Idaho Economic Development District Region III and develop recommendations for new administrative and organizational structure.

**Action:** UCED staff led a strategic plan meeting in Boise, Idaho to initiate creation of Region III in the state of Idaho. Additional studies to assist creations of Region III may be initiated (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** University Center for Economic Development

**Location of Project:** Metropolitan Areas of the U.S.

**Nature of Project:** Develop economic activity index for metropolitan counties in the U.S.

**Action:** Statistical procedures are being applied to develop an economic activity index for U.S. metropolitan counties. (Assignment continues).

3. **Client:** Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
Location of Project: Duckwater, Nevada


Action: Assistance for CEDS development has been initiated. (Assignment continues).

4. Client: Yerington Paiute Tribe

Location of Project: Yerington, Nevada


Action: Assistance for CEDS development has been initiated. (Assignment continues).

5. Client: Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources

Location of Project: Eureka County, Nevada

Nature of Project: Develop business plan for a sheep research station in Eureka County.

Action: Data and development of a business plan for a sheep research station is being collected. A business plan was developed. (Assignment continues)

Harris, Thomas. Preliminary Business Plan for Transfer of Merino Sheep Rafter 7 Operation to University of Nevada, Reno Agricultural Experiment Station, UCED 2017/18-14, June 2018.


Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: A statewide workshop on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy was developed and presented in Tonopah, Nevada.

Action: A program was developed and presented in Tonopah, Nevada. (Assignment completed).
7. Client: University of Nevada College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources  

**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Collection of socio-economic data for the state and counties in Nevada.  

**Action:** Socio-economic data is being collected. (Assignment continues)

8. Client: Idaho National Guard  

**Location of Project:** State of Idaho  

**Nature of Project:** Reviewed economic input study.  

**Action:** Final study completed and send to Idaho. (Assignment completed)

9. Client: Western Rural Development Center  

**Location of Project:** Western United States  

**Nature of Project:** Develop a workforce-training program covering the Gig Economy of the Western States.  

**Action:** Initial meeting completed and assignments made. (Assignment continues)

10. Client: Lander Economic Development Authority (Lander County)  

**Location of Project:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  

**Nature of Project:** Complete a four-year and annual evaluation of the 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County.  

**Action:** Completed a half-day evaluation workshop in Battle Mountain, Nevada on May 2, 2018, published a University Center for Economic Development technical report summarizing the results of the half-day evaluation workshop, and made presentations regarding the summary to both the Lander County Board of County Commissioners, the Lander County Planning Commission, and the Lander Economic Development Authority. The technical report and a cover letter have been sent to the US EDA office in Los Angeles, California. (Assignment completed)

F. Workshops and Seminars:

1. Client: Lincoln County Commissioners

   Location of Workshop: Caliente, Nevada

   Nature of Workshop: Presentation of study results for mountain bike trail in Caliente, Nevada.

   Action: Presentation made and final report being drafted. (Assignment completed)

2. Client: Washoe County Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA)

   Location of Workshop: Reno, Nevada

   Nature of Workshop: Presentation of past, current, and future socio-economic trends in Washoe County.

   Action: Presentation made to September meeting of Washoe County CFMA. (Assignment completed).

3. Client: Economic Development Authorities of the State of Nevada

   Location of Workshop: Tonopah, Nevada


   Action: two-day workshop held in Tonopah, Nevada. (Assignment completed).

G. Technical Presentations and Lectures by University Center Staff:

1. Client: Nevada Legislative Committee on Public Lands

   Location of Lecture: Battle Mountain, Nevada

   Nature of Lecture: Presentation on the economic and fiscal impacts of public lands on Nevada counties economies and fiscal budgets.

   Action: Made presentation to Nevada Legislative Committee on Public Lands. (Assignment Completed)
2. Client: United States Department of Agriculture - National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA – NIFA)

Location of Lecture: Washington, DC

Nature of Lecture: Presentation on past year’s work on the Asset Sector Analysis Project Grant.

Action: Presentation made to USDA – NIFA. (Assignment completed)

H. Journal Articles and Publications for Fiscal Year 2018/19:


University Center Technical Reports for Fiscal Year 2018/19:


