University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Second Quarter Report
For the Period
1 October to 31 December 2012

Prepared by
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for

Economic Development Administration
Grant No. 07-66-06883

January 2013

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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 Second quarter of FY 2012-2013. During the second quarter, the University Center produced ten applied research projects, six other research projects, four technical and management assistance projects, five counseling and referrals, one workshop, one technical presentation, and four University Center technical reports.

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; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Analyst; Margaret Cowee, Research Analyst; Malieka Landis, Research Analyst; Mike Helmar, Research Analyst; Brian Bonnenfant for the Center of Regional Studies for GIS work; Eugenia Larmore, Graduate Research Associate in the Department of Economics; Jeffery Stroup, 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, Office Manager.
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 and journal articles. Three technical reports were published during the second quarter, fiscal year 2012/2013 by the University Center. One workshop and one technical presentation and lecture were offered by the University Center to present economic data and results of past projects.

The University Center currently maintains a Web page. The address is http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced. From this Web page, a person is able to 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 constantly 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.

B. Applied Research:

1. Client: Western Rural Development Center

Location of Project: Western States of the Nation

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

Action: Asset Sector Activity Process (ASAP) model has been developed and applied in Anaconda, Montana; Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona, and Lander County, Nevada. A users’ manual is currently being developed as well as a train-the-trainer seminar that might be sponsored by the Western Rural Development Center later in 2013. (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: New economic impacts of the healthcare sector in all Nevada counties are being re-estimated. A Web page has been developed for the University Center website that shows the economic impacts of Nevada’s hospitals and healthcare sector on Nevada regions and counties. (Assignment continues)

3. Client: State of Nevada

Location of Project: White Pine and Lincoln counties

**Action:** An analysis of countywide impacts from possible pinyon-juniper development in White Pine County and Lincoln County was completed. Also a multi-state pinyon-juniper proposal is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

4. **Client:** Nevada Arid Research Institute  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Estimation on economic impacts of public land ranchers adopting new disease control technologies and determining factors why or why not ranchers adopt these technologies.  
**Action:** A Nevada Arid Rangeland Initiative proposal was written and accepted. Additional funding for survey instrument was leveraged. A rancher questionnaire has been developed and is being tested. Once the questionnaire has been finalized and has been sent out to a random selection of Nevada producers. (Assignment Completed)

5. **Client:** State of Nevada  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Investigate economic impacts of Nevada’s dairy industry and potential economic linkages including a dry milk processing plant that will locate in Churchill County. Impacts are currently being estimated. A workshop was held in Fallon to discuss Nevada dairy issues.  
**Action:** Model analysis has been initiated to derive economic linkages of the Nevada dairy industry and the new dry milk processing plant also a workshop was presented in September. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Lincoln County  
**Location of Project:** Lincoln County  
**Nature of Project:** Collect data and estimate economic targets for Lincoln County.  
**Action:** Industrial targeting analysis completed and presentation of the results was made in July. (Assignment completed)


7. **Client:** Clark County, Nevada  
**Location of Project:** Clark County (Las Vegas)  
**Nature of Project:** Clark County, through a grant from EDA, solicited proposals to develop and deliver a Small Business procurement training and workforce development program for small businesses operating in Clark County. A partnership of private, non-profit and public institutions developed a comprehensive training program. This partnership is called “Strategic Alliance for Emerging Small Businesses” and includes: Nevada Cooperative Extension, Nevada Small Business Development Center, Akers & Associates, Hart Communications, and Future for an Independent Tomorrow.
**Action:** Recently the final grant award was signed in early July 2012 and the first set of classes began on August 9, 2012. This will be the first of four program cycles to be offered over the next 24 months in Clark County. The team is currently qualifying Small Businesses to be placed in one of the four class cycles. The goal is to train 200 small businesses over the next 24 months. (Assignment continues)

8: **Client:** University of Nevada School of Medicine  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Collection and analysis of socio-economic data of Nevada's elderly population. Also socio-economic data was collected on Nevada veterans. In addition, initiated data collection to estimate economic impacts of a physician office and the University of Nevada School of Medicine on the Nevada economy.  
**Action:** The Nevada elderly and Nevada veteran socio-economic data was collected and is currently being analyzed for publications. Data analysis for office of physician and University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine economic impacts have been initiated. (Assignment continues)

9: **Client:** University of Nevada NSF-EPSCoR group.  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Development and refining proposal for NSF-EPSCoR Energy Project.  
**Action:** NSF-EPSCoR proposal on energy was developed and submitted for potential funding. (Assignment continues)

10: **Client:** Nevada State Office of Energy  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Request to develop a State of Nevada Compatible Equilibrium model to analyze economic impacts of energy efficiency and alternative energy programs.  
**Action:** A proposal was developed and accepted. (Assignment continues)

C. **Other Research Projects**

1: **Client:** Lander County Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Project:** Lander County  
**Nature of Project:** Requested to develop a proposal for the potential development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County.  
**Action:** A proposal was developed and sent to Lander County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment continues)
2. **Client:** State of Nevada  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Initiate and complete a dynamic shift-share analysis of State of Nevada.  
**Action:** Calculation of dynamic shift-share analysis for the State of Nevada has been completed. The text of the study has been completed and is being reviewed. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client:** Walker River Basin Study  
**Location of Project:** Lyon and Mineral counties  
**Nature of Project:** A cluster economic analysis has been completed for Lyon and Mineral counties.  
**Action:** Cluster publications and a socio-economic trend analysis have been completed for Mineral County, Yerington zip code area, and Smith Valley zip code area. (Assignment Completed)


4. **Client:** Churchill County Dairy Industry  
**Location of Project:** Churchill County, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Development of representative Churchill County dairy for estimation of financial impacts of alternative federal programs.  
**Action:** A representative dairy for Churchill County has been developed and has been incorporated in the Agricultural Policy Center at Texas A&M University. Analysis of potential federal milk order changes will be analyzed through the Nevada representative dairy model. (Assignment continues.)

5. **Client:** Rural Nevada  
**Location of Project:** Rural Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Develop research project to estimate potential of hoop houses for rural Nevada.
Action: A research project proposal has been developed. (Assignment continues.)

6. Client: Western Nevada Development District
Location of Project: Western Nevada Development District
Nature of Project: Initiated and presented three modules of the Stronger Economies Together Program.
Action: Modules 7 through 9 of the SET program were presented. A final document is currently being developed. (Assignment continues.)

D. Technical and Management Assistance Projects:

1. Client: Nevada Cooperative Extension
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Cooperative Extension fact sheets published and under review.
Action: Below are the Cooperative Extension fact sheets published and under review for this fiscal year. (Assignment continues.)

Location of Project: Western Nevada Development District (WNDD).


Action: The State of Nevada is applying to part of the third phase of the national SET program. Once accepted the SET program will be applied to WNDD. (Assignment continues)

3. Client: Humboldt County General Hospital
Location of Project: Central Nevada
Nature of Project: Request to investigate feasibility of adding an orthopedic surgeon to Humboldt General Hospital staff.
Action: Data is being collected after feasibility analysis. (Assignment continues)

4. Client: State of Nevada
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Requested by the State of Nevada Governor’s Office on Economic Development to estimate leverage and potential economic impacts of $13.88 million dollar State Small Business Credit Initiative of US Department of Treasury.
Action: Analysis was completed and submitted for funding by the US Department of Treasury. (Assignment completed)
E. Counseling and Referrals:

1. **Client:** University of Nevada Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Services  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested the size of Nevada Economic sectors by value of output.  

   **Action:** A memorandum was drafted that rated Nevada economic sectors by value of output. (Assignment completed)

2. **Client:** Lander County Economic Development Authority  
   **Location of Project:** Lander County  
   **Nature of Project:** Request of economic sectors that use roll copper as input.  

   **Action:** A list of economic sectors was derived and sent to Lander County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment continues)

3. **Client:** Nevada Taxation Department  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Discussion of taxation data that could be used for an extension program.  

   **Action:** State of Nevada Taxation data found for state wide extension program. (Assignment completed)

4. **Client:** Washoe County Commissioners  
   **Location of Project:** Washoe County  
   **Nature of Project:** Request for past study on economic impacts of Reno Aces Baseball Club on Washoe County economy.  

   **Action:** Study found and sent to Washoe County Commissioners. (Assignment completed)

5. **Client:** Department of Agricultural Economics of VP1  
   **Location of Project:** Washoe County  
   **Nature of Project:** Estimation of where recent in-commuters to Washoe County came from.  

   **Action:** State of Nevada Demographic completed and data sources sent to VP1. (Assignment completed)

F. Workshops and Seminars:

1. **Client:** WNDD SET Program  
   **Location of Presentation:** Fallon, Nevada
Nature of Workshop: Last meeting of WNDD-SET group.

Action: Meeting completed in Fallon, Nevada. (Assignment completed)

G. Technical Presentations and Lectures by University Center Staff:

1. Client: UNR Business Week
Location of Presentation: Reno, Nevada
Nature of Project: Participated in a round table to discuss national, state, and local economic trends.

Action: Presentation completed during UNR Business Week (Assignment completed)

H. Journal Articles and Publications for Fiscal Year 2012/13:

Man-Keun, Kim; Zhu, Erqian Julia; Harris, Thomas R.; and Jonathan E. Alvey. “Developing LP-SAM to Examine Regional Economic Impact: Application of Investigating Regional Economic Impacts from Wildfires”, Revised and Resubmitted to The Review of Regional Studies.

University Center Technical Reports for Fiscal Year 2012/13:


University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets and Special Publications for Fiscal Year 2010/11: