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. The Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance on economic development for the fourth quarter of FY 2010-2011. During the fourth quarter, the University Center produced six applied research projects, thirteen other research projects, thirteen technical and management assistance projects, sixteen counseling and referrals, three workshops, two technical presentations, seven University Center technical reports under review, one Cooperative Extension fact sheet with three under review, 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, Professor in the Department of Resource Economics, State Extension Specialist, and Director of the Center for Economic Development; Maureen Kilkenny, Professor in the Department of Resource Economics and State Extension Specialist; Mariah Evans, Associate Professor in the Department of Resource Economics and State Extension Specialist; Kimberly Rollins, Associate Professor in the Department of Resource Economics; Mimako (Mimi) Kobayashi, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Resource Economics; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Analyst; Anita Castledine, Research Analyst; Margaret Cowee, Research Analyst; Malieka Landis, Research Analyst; Sue Strom, Administrative Assistant; 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.
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. Seven technical reports were under review, one Cooperative Extension fact sheet was published with three under review, and one journal article was published during the fourth quarter, fiscal year 2010/2011 by the University Center. Three workshops and two technical presentations and lectures 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 Hawaii are developing a model to match businesses with community economic development preferences.

Action: A Community Business Matching (CBM) model has been developed and applied in Anaconda, Montana; Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona. The CBM model is currently being applied to Monterey County, California; Lander County, Nevada and four Montana counties. The CBM model is also being applied to a Walker River Basin project, where the communities to be studied are Yerington and Smith Valley, Nevada and Mineral County, Nevada. A national webinar on the CBM process was presented in May. A users’ manual is being developed as well as a train-the-trainer seminar. A presentation of the CBM model was made at the Rural Nevada Economic Development Conference. (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: 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.
A report has been written documenting the contributions of hospitals and other medical providers to Nevada’s economy. Also, working with Oklahoma State University, an outreach/extension program is being developed to help rural critical access hospitals assess operations and the fulfillment of rural demands. (Assignment continues.)


3. **Client:** State of Nevada  
**Location of Project:** White Pine and Lincoln counties  
**Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic feasibility of pinyon-juniper harvesting.  
**Action:** An analysis of countywide impacts from possible pinyon-juniper development in White Pine County and Lincoln County was completed. Results of study presented at the Pinyon-Juniper Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. A multi-state pinyon-juniper harvesting proposal is also 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. Also, to find reasons why or why not ranchers adopt these technologies.  
**Action:** A Nevada Arid Rangeland Initiative proposal written and accepted. A rancher questionnaire is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

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.  
**Action:** Model analysis has been initiated to derive economic linkages of the Nevada dairy industry. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** University of Nevada, Reno  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Assisted in development of a USDA and Department of Energy biofuels grant.  
**Action:** Proposal developed and submitted. Awaiting information as to the acceptance of the proposal. (Assignment continues.)
C. Other Research Projects

1. **Client:** Lander County Project FIND

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

**Nature of Project:** Initiate study of potential economic clusters and commercial sector sales losses for Lander County. Also, initiate questionnaire development for business owners and commercial sector consumers in Lander County. Also, development of clean energy model is in progress.

**Action:** Business owner and commercial sector customer questionnaires were developed and mailed. The retail sector analysis has been completed as well as the Community Business Matching model. Data is being collected to derive county level economic impacts of clean energy projects. (Assignment continues.)


2. **Client:** EPG, Inc., Preparing EIS for Armargosa Valley and Nye County

**Location of Project:** Armargosa Valley and Nye County

**Nature of Project:** The Pahrump Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in response to a right-of-way application submitted by Solar Millennium, LLC to construct and operate the Armargosa Farm Road Solar Energy Project. The proposed Project includes the construction and operation of two 232-megawatt (MW) dry-cooled solar power plants equipped with thermal energy storage capability and associated ancillary linear facilities. Facilities located within the Project area would occupy approximately 4,350 acres and would include solar fields, power blocks, an office and maintenance building, parking area, lay-down area, switchyard, and storm water detention basin.

Following NEPA planning process, this scope of work is to conduct the socioeconomic impact analysis for the proposed construction and operation of the Armargosa Farm Road Solar Energy Project.

Social and economic characteristics of a community or region are one of the first steps in understanding the overall dynamics of a community. This is especially important when a community/region is planning or experiencing change because it provides valuable information for planning and development purposes. This is the case for the Region of Influence (ROI) with the development and operation of the Armargosa Farm Road Solar Energy Project (AFRSEP). The ROI is defined as Nye and Clark counties in Nevada, with a focus on Nye County communities of Armargosa Valley, Beatty, and Pahrump. Each of these communities is in close proximity to the proposed Armargosa Valley Project and will play an integral part to its development and operation.

The purpose of the report is to provide the communities in the ROI with a baseline understanding of the most current and projected social and economic characteristics. Understanding these characteristics and how they are changing will also provide an understanding as to how these communities may be linked or dependent on one another. For
example, what are the demographics of the population located next or near the ROI, where are they living and where are they working? These characteristics are very important when considering community and economic development planning and assessment.

**Action:** Conducted full socioeconomic impact assessment of the proposed Armargosa Farm Road Solar Energy Project. (Assignment complete.)

3. **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.)

4. **Client:** Walker River Basin Study  
   **Location of Project:** Lyon and Mineral counties  
   **Nature of Project:** A community business matching model for Lyon and Mineral counties.  
   **Action:** A community business matching model program is being initiated for Lyon and Mineral counties. (Assignment continues.)

5. **Client:** Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe  
   **Location of Project:** Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation  
   **Nature of Project:** Strategic plan for child care for members of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.  
   **Action:** A proposal was drafted and accepted. A questionnaire was developed to determine child care needs of the Pyramid Lake Tribe members. Questionnaires have been mailed and returned. Analysis of questionnaire results completed and submitted to client. (Assignment continues.)

6. **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. (Assignment continues.)

7. **Client:** State of Nevada  
   **Location of Project:** Northern California/Nevada Megapolitan Area  
   **Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic linkages between Northern California and Northern Nevada.  
   **Action:** A University Center Technical Bulletin is being developed. (Assignment continues.)
8. 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.)

9. Client: USDA Rural Development
   **Location of Project:** National
   **Nature of Project:** Develop presentation on Community Business Matching model to be part of USDA Stronger Economics Together Program.
   **Action:** Attended SET meeting in Atlanta and currently developing CBM overhead presentation for SET. (Assignment continues.)

10. Client: Battle Mountain General Hospital
    **Location of Project:** Lander County
    **Nature of Project:** A study of emergency medical services in Lander County.
    **Action:** Emergency medical service information is currently being collected in Lander County for analysis of EMS demand and costs of Lander County EMS services. (Assignment continues.)

11. Client: Lincoln County
    **Location of Project:** Lincoln County
    **Nature of Project:** Initiate and complete feasibility study of a potential bottled water operation.
    **Action:** Proposal is being developed for potential funding. (Assignment continues.)

12. Client: Western Rural Development Center
    **Location of Project:** Western United States
    **Nature of Project:** Meeting for development of potential Western U.S. study for renewable energy.
    **Action:** Meeting held in Seattle and a consortium for renewable energy in the West proposal is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

13. Client: Laughlin, Nevada
    **Location of Project:** Laughlin, Nevada
    **Nature of Project:** Economic Development is a local priority. More than 9,000 acres in Laughlin (Fort Mohave Valley) were held and administered by the Colorado River Commission of Nevada of an original 15,000 acres purchased from the United States government decades ago under both federal and state laws intended for the development of the Fort Mohave Valley. During its 2007 session, the Nevada Legislature adopted amendments to NRS 321.480, which turned over the administration and ownership of the remaining land from the Fort Mohave Act of 1960 to Clark County along with the Fort Mohave Valley Development Account.
In the recent months, Clark County has been in negotiations with ENN Mojave Energy Corporation to build and operate an alternative energy manufacturing plant and solar field. ENN intends to construct and operate the Mohave Green Center in Clark County. The project will consist of two primary components – a manufacturing facility and a solar generating facility. The manufacturing facility will produce thin-film, photo-voltaic solar panels and will include, at build out, six advanced production lines in a clean room environment. The 1 million square foot manufacturing facility will produce as many as 5.4 million solar panels per year at full production. The solar generating facility will be adjacent to the manufacturing facility and will utilize the panels produced on site. The generating facility will be built in two phases of 360 MW (720MW in total) and the plans anticipate the possible expansion to a fourth phase.

The Project presents a tremendous opportunity for economic development in Clark County. The total capital investment will be between $4-6 billion. Current estimates suggest that nearly 2,000 permanent manufacturing jobs will result from the Project and 4,000 construction jobs will be created over a four-year period. The Project will bring significant economic benefit to southern Nevada.

Action: UNR Cooperative Extension and Center for Economic Development is engaged in the entire process. Potential roles include: community planning, social, economic, and fiscal analysis, cluster business development, workforce development, and community education. (Assignment continues.)

D. Technical and Management Assistance Projects:

1. 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 work plan and to outline entrepreneurship extension materials for the internet. A webinar on the Community Business Matching model is being developed for presentation in May. (Assignment continues).

2. Client: Washoe County Commissioners

Location of Project: Washoe County

Nature of Project: Requested benefit/cost analysis of waste to energy potential project.

Action: A study of potential recyclable products and procedures for Washoe County was drafted and completed. Presentation of study results presented to city of Reno council. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Nevada Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Once Cooperative Extension fact sheet was published this quarter and three are under review.  
**Action:** Below are the Cooperative Extension fact sheets published and under review.  
(Assignment continues.)


Cowee, Margaret and Thomas R. Harris. “Mobile Slaughter Potential for Nevada.”

4. **Client:** Internal Revenue Service  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Request to initiate study of economic impacts of Earned Income Tax Credit.  
**Action:** Data has been requested from Internal Revenue Service to initiate impact study.  
(Assignment continues.)

5. **Client:** Chancellor’s Office of Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** The University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno and Center for Economic and Business Research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas were requested by the Chancellor of NSHE to complete two studies. One study estimated the economic impacts of NSHE on the economy of the state of Nevada. The second publication required an estimation of potential student loss from proposed tuition increases.  
**Action:** Studies were initiated and completed. Results sent to the Chancellor’s office:


6. **Client:** University of Nevada Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project:** Lander, Lyon and Mineral counties of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Estimation of the economic impacts of extension offices in Lander, Lyon and Mineral counties on their local county economies.  
**Action:** Analyses for county extension offices have been completed:


7. Client: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Location of Project: Reno, NV

Nature of Project: Requested study to estimate the economic and employment impacts of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Association on the economy of the state of Nevada.

Action: Employment and economic impacts estimated and given to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. (Assignment completed.)

8. Client: Desert Research Institute

Location of Project: Washoe County

Nature of Project: Assist DRI in development of a Washoe County CEDS.

Action: Working with DRI to develop CEDS for Washoe County. (Assignment continues.)


Location of Project: State of Nevada

Nature of Project: Assist in development of i6 Green Project.

Action: Provide information to NIREC for i6 Green proposal. (Assignment completed.)

10. Client: Pahrump, Nevada

Location of Project: Pahrump

Nature of Project: Economic Development is a local priority. A significant amount of BLM land (500+ acres) has been designated for the town to develop a fair grounds facility with complementary tourism business operations. A national recognized professional planning group has been hired to develop a conceptual and financial plan.

Action: UNR Cooperative Extension and Center for Economic Development is engaged in the entire process. Potential roles include: community planning, social, economic, and fiscal analysis, cluster business development, workforce development, and community education. (Assignment continues.)
11. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada  
**Location of Project:** Laughlin, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** During the recent Nevada legislative session, SB 262 was passed that requires the fiscal study of Laughlin and if incorporation is feasible. The Department of Finance/Taxation is directed to complete this study.  
**Action:** A committee on Local Government Finance has been assembled that includes UNR Cooperative Extension and Center for Economic Development. Our role in this project is to assist with analysis and provide local education. (Assignment continues.)

12. **Client:** West Las Vegas  
**Location of Project:** West Las Vegas  
**Nature of Project:** Assist with the update and development of Comprehensive Economic Development Plan for West Las Vegas.  
**Action:** Provided socioeconomic indicators and analysis using secondary sources to assist with updating Comprehensive Economic Development plan. (Assignment continues.)

13. **Client:** Clark County  
**Location of Project:** Clark County  
**Nature of Project:** Assist Clark County with update of CEDS.  
**Action:** Work with Clark County in updating county CEDS. (Assignment continues.)

E. **Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** Churchill County Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project:** Fallon, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to economic impacts of agricultural sector.  
**Action:** Economic and employment impacts for Nevada agricultural sector were estimated and sent to Churchill County Cooperative Extension. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Yerington Dairy Owner  
**Location of Project:** Western Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested budget information on dairies in Western Nevada.  
**Action:** Cost and return data collected in development of Western Nevada dairy budget completed. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client:** Great Basin College  
**Location of Project:** Northeast Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Develop memorandum to estimate economic and employment impacts of the agricultural sector in Northeast Nevada.
**Action:** Northeastern Nevada agricultural economic and employment impacts were derived and sent to Great Basin College. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Chancellor's Office, Nevada System of Higher Education  
**Location of Project:** Fallon, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to state's modified business tax.  
**Action:** Data and information on the modified business tax was collected and sent to the Chancellor's office. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center  
**Location of Project:** Western United States  
**Nature of Project:** Requested paper on community Business Matching model.  
**Action:** Paper developed and sent to Western Rural Development Center. (Assignment continues.)

6. **Client:** Iowa State University  
**Location of Project:** National  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information on papers completed on estimating economic impacts of universities throughout the nation.  
**Action:** A list of papers developed and sent to Iowa State University. (Assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** University of Idaho Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project:** Eastern Idaho  
**Nature of Project:** Requested a copy of University Center publication on Beaverhead, Madison, Grant, and Powell Counties in Montana as to socio-economic trends.  
**Action:** University Center publication found and mailed to University of Idaho. (Assignment completed.)

8. **Client:** Dayton Valley Turf  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested University Center Technical Bulletins which studied horse ownership and economic impacts of the Nevada green industry.  
**Action:** University Center bulletins found and mailed to Dayton Valley Turf. (Assignment continues.)

9. **Client:** New York Times  
**Location of Project:** Lyon County  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information and verification of information that shows Lyon County has a higher military volunteer rate than any other community or county.  
**Action:** Spoke to New York Times reporter and shared information. (Assignment completed.)
10. **Client:** Eureka County Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project:** Northeast Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Develop research and extension program to evaluate range restoration effects and natural resources.  
**Action:** Initiated development of a research and extension proposal for possible funding.  
(Assignment completed.)

11. **Client:** Western Nevada Development District  
**Location of Project:** Area served by Western Nevada Development District  
**Nature of Project:** Requested analysis of journey-to-work between counties of Western Nevada Development District.  
**Action:** Analysis of journey-to-work data for counties in Western Nevada Development District completed and sent to Western Nevada Development District.  
(Assignment completed.)

12. **Client:** Coeur Rochester Mining Company  
**Location of Project:** Pershing County  
**Nature of Project:** Requested a proposal to complete an economic impact study of construction and operations of new copper mine in Pershing County.  
**Action:** Proposal is being drafted.  
(Assignment continues.)

13. **Client:** State of Nevada Commission on Economic Development  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested economic and impact analysis assistance in applying for SSBCI loan funds from U.S. Treasury.  
**Action:** Economic and impact analysis completed and was part of package to obtain SSBCI loan funds from the U.S. Department of Treasury.  
(Assignment completed.)

14. **Client:** Western Nevada Development District  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested historic data series of patents issued in Nevada.  
**Action:** Historic patent data collected and sent to Western Nevada Development District.  
(Assignment completed.)

15. **Client:** Consultant  
**Location of Project:** Western Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested budget information on dairies in Western Nevada on behalf of a California dairy farmer, who was looking to relocate his dairy.  
**Action:** Sent cost and return data for Western Nevada representative dairy  
(Assignment completed.)
16. **Client:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas law student  
**Location of Project:** Nevada and Lander County  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information on agriculture industry in Nevada and Lander County.  
**Action:** Sent aggregated sector information including agriculture for Nevada and Lander County. (Assignment completed.)

**F. Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** Laughlin Chamber of Commerce and Bullhead Regional Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Workshop:** Laughlin, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Regional Economic Development Summit.  
**Action:** Attended and participated in Regional Economic Development Summit. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Battle Mountain General Hospital  
**Location of Workshop:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Battle Mountain is a pilot project for estimating linkages of rural hospitals to rural county economies.  
**Action:** Workshop in Battle Mountain completed and data from pilot project collected. (Project completed.)

3. **Client:** U.S. Cooperative Extension Service  
**Location of Workshop:** Atlanta, Georgia  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presented one-hour webinar on Community Business Matching model project.  
**Action:** Presentation made to extension service through webinar. (Project completed.)

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

1. **Client:** UNR Economics Department  
**Location of Presentation:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Overview of research and outreach activities by the University Center.  
**Action:** Presentation made at UNR’s Department of Economics’ seminar series. (Assignment completed.)
2. **Client:** City of Reno  
**Location of Presentation:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presented results of study investigating various forms of recycling to the City of Reno.  
**Action:** Presentation to City of Reno Council was made. (Assignment completed.)

H. **Journal Articles and Proceedings**


Yolyan, Ruzanna and Thomas R. Harris. “Economic Impact of Nevada Dairy Industry: The 'Moo-In-Moola.'” Under review


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


Borden, Buddy, M.D.R. Evans and Thomas Harris. “Amargosa Farm Road Solar Energy Project Socioeconomic Impacts.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Special Publication under review.