First Quarter Report
For the Period
1 July to 30 September 2011

Prepared by
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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 2011-2012. During the first quarter, the University Center produced twelve applied research projects, ten other research projects, six technical and management assistance projects, six counseling and referrals, two workshop, two technical presentations, one University Center technical report, three Cooperative Extension fact sheet under review, one journal article, and one newspaper 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; 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; Brian Bonnenfant for the Center of Regional studies for GIS work; 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 Lander County, Nevada and one Arizona community. The CBM model is also going to be 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


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. Models have been developed to assist critical access hospitals with the demands of community
assessments by the new federal health care. Presentations in Yerington and Boulder City are being developed. (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. Additional funding for survey instrument was leveraged. 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:** Public Land Counsel  
**Location of Project:** Western United States  
**Nature of Project:** Review study by U.S. Department of Interior that estimated economic impacts of public land grazing.  
**Action:** Analysis has been initiated and a publication is being developed. (Assignment continues).

7. **Client:** Nevada Energy  
**Location of Project:** Elko, White Pine, Lincoln, Eureka, and Clarke Counties  
**Nature of Project:** Estimation of the economic, employment, and household income impacts new power line.  
**Action:** Data for estimation is currently being collected. (Assignment continues).

8. **Client:** Lodi County Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Project:** Lodi County
**Nature of Project:** Develop procedures and model to estimate costs of geothermal activities for input-output analysis.

**Action:** A proposal was drafted for Lodi County Economic Development Authority for study. (Assignment continues).

**9. Client:** City of Wells  
**Location of Project:** City of Wells  
**Nature of Project:** A proposal requested to complete a feasibility analysis of the reconstruction of the Ranch House Casino into a City of Wells Convention Center.  
**Action:** A proposal drafted and sent to City of Wells. (Assignment continues).

**10. Client:** City of Fernley  
**Location of Project:** Fernley, NV  
**Nature of Project:** Request for proposal to complete a study of initial socio-economic data trends for potential local convention center.  
**Action:** A proposal drafted and sent to the City of Fernley. (Assignment continues).

**11. Client:** Lincoln County  
**Location of Project:** Lincoln County  
**Nature of Project:** Collect data and estimate occupational shortages in Lincoln County.  
**Action:** Economic and occupational data are being collected for analysis. (Assignment continues).

**12. Client:** Coeur Rochester Mine  
**Location of Project:** Pershing and Humboldt Counties  
**Nature of Project:** Develop proposal to estimate the economic, employment, and household income impacts of re-opening Coeur Rochester Mine.  
**Action:** Proposal drafted and sent to Coeur Rochester. (Assignment continues).
C. Other Research Projects

1. Client: Lander County Project FIND  
   Location of Project: Lander County, Nevada  
   Nature of Project: Completed commercial and entrepreneurial analysis of Lander County. Initial industrial targeting using the Community Business Matching Model was completed.  
   Action: Additional business questionnaires added to Community Business Matching Model and applied to Lander County. (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  
   Action: A community business matching model program is being initiated for Lyon and Mineral counties. (Assignment continues.)

4. Client: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe  
   Location of Project: Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation  
   Nature of Project: A publication drafted that estimated demand for child care in the area.  
   Action: University Center Technical Publication were developed and sent to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe:

5. 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.)

6. 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.)
7. **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.)

8. **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.)

9. **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.)

10. **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.)

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:** Nevada Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Once Cooperative Extension fact sheet is 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.”

3. 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.)

4. 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.)

5. Client: Nevada Institute for Renewable Energy Commercialization
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.)

6. 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: State of Nevada Commission on Economic Development
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Requested copy of study completed by University Center that estimated county employment impacts of agriculture for the state of Nevada.
Action: Publication found and sent to the Commission (Assignment completed.)

2. Client: University of Idaho
Location of Project: Elko County, Nevada
**Nature of Project:** Study that estimated economic impact of public grazing on Elko County economy requested.

**Action:** Study found and sent to University of Idaho. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Nevada Dental Associates  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Estimation of economic and income impacts of dental offices on State of Nevada economy.  
**Action:** Impacts calculated and estimates sent. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Reno-Sparks Indian Colony  
**Location of Project:** Reno-Sparks Indian Colony  
**Nature of Project:** Requested unemployment data for the area.  
**Action:** Unemployment data collected and sent to Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** State of Nevada Governor’s Office  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Economic analysis requested for preparation of request of SSBC1 funds from U.S. Treasury.  
**Action:** Impacts estimated, proposal drafted, proposal accepted and SSBC1 funds sent to Nevada. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Client:** Nevada Horse Park  
**Location of Project:** Douglas County  
**Nature of Project:** The Nevada Horse Park Association requested a past study on the feasibility of the Nevada Horse Park.  
**Action:** Study found and sent to Nevada Horse Park. (Assignment completed.)

F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** National Association of Industrial and Office Projects  
**Location of Presentation:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Booth to advertise activities of the University Center.  
**Action:** Booth was developed and manned throughout the association meetings. (Assignment completed).
2. **Client:** Nevada Association of Planners  
**Location of Presentation:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Booth to advertise activities of the University Center.  
**Action:** Booth was developed and manned throughout the association meetings. (Assignment completed.)

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

1. **Client:** Lander County  
**Location of Presentation:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presentation of overview of Lander General Hospital impacts to Lander County  
**Action:** Presentation made and publication developed. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Economic Students Association  
**Location of Presentation:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Discussion panel on economic status and growth in Nevada.  
**Action:** Presentation made on economic potentials for Nevada. (Assignment completed.)

H. **Journal Articles and Publications**


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.

Cowee, Margaret and Thomas R. Harris. “Mobile Slaughter Potential for Nevada.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Special Publication under review.