University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Second Quarter Report
For the Period
1 October to 31 December 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 second quarter of FY 2011-2012. During the second quarter, the University Center produced twelve applied research projects, eight other research projects, five technical and management assistance projects, ten counseling and referrals, four workshops, two technical presentation, one University Center technical report, two Cooperative Extension fact sheets published with one 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 Economics, State Extension Specialist, and Director of the Center for Economic Development; Mariah Evans, Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology; Kimberly Rollins, Associate Professor in the Department of Economics; Mimako (Mimi) Kobayashi, Research Assistant 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; 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. One technical report was published, two Cooperative Extension fact sheets were published with one under review, and one journal article was published during the second quarter, fiscal year 2011/2012 by the University Center. Four 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 currently being developed as well as a train-the-trainer seminar. A Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet was developed and published describing the Community Business Matching model process:

2. **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:** 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. Procedures have been developed to assist rural hospitals in meeting the Health Needs Assessment Requirements for 501-c-3 hospitals as described in The Affordable Care Act of March 2010. A first round of presentations of these procedures was made in Yerington and Boulder City and a second round of presentations will be presented during the Winter of 2012. (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 has been developed and is under review by Human Subjects. Once accepted the questionnaire will be administered in the state. (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 Lands 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 for the Public Lands Council. (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 was collected and an analysis was completed. A memorandum of the results was sent to Nevada Energy. (Assignment completed).

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 accepted by the City of Wells. Data is currently being collected to complete the feasibility study. (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 accepted by the City of Fernley. Data is currently being collected for the study. (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 accepted by Coeur Rochester. Data collection has been initiated. (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. An additional Community Business Model analysis was completed and results presented at a meeting of the Lander County Project FIND. (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 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.)  

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 (Assignment completed):

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. Analysis of potential federal milk order changes will be analyzed through the Nevada representative dairy model. (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 and Southern Rural Development Center

**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: 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.)

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:** Cooperative Extension fact sheets published and 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.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Special Publication under review.

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. A Washoe County CEDS was developed and approved. (Assignment completed).

5. **Client:** USDA-Rural Development for State of Nevada.  
**Location of Project:** Western Nevada Development District (WNDD).  
**Nature of Project:** Application of USDA-Rural Development and National Cooperative extension Project “Stronger Economies Together” (SET) in the WNDD area.  
**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).
E. Counseling and Referrals:

1. **Client:** Churchill County Economic Development Authority  
   **Location of Project:** Churchill County  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested output, employment, and household income multipliers for the dairy sector in Churchill County.  
   **Action:** Output, employment, and household income multipliers for dairy sector in Churchill County estimated and sent to Churchill County Economic development Authority (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** State of Nevada Commission on Economic Development (NCED)  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Presentation of SET program to new NCED Director Mr. Steve Hill.  
   **Action:** Presentation of SET program made to Mr. Steve Hill. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Political Science Department at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)  
   **Location of Project:** Pershing County  
   **Nature of Project:** requested copy of EA publication on the re-opening of the Coeur Rochester mine in Pershing County in 2009.  
   **Action:** Copy of publication found and mailed. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Douglas County  
   **Location of Project:** Douglas County  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information on Priority Based Budgeting.  
   **Action:** Information on Priority Based Budgeting found and mailed to Douglas County. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** Rural Nevada Development Corporation (RNDC)  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Information on Community Development Financial Institute funding opportunity.  
   **Action:** Request for proposal from U.S. Treasury was sent to RNDC. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Client:** Electricite de France  
   **Location of Project:** Areas of interest by Electricite de France  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information on the Community Business Matching model.  
   **Action:** Information on the CBM model was sent to Electricte de France. (Assignment completed.)
7. **Client:** Churchill County Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Project:** Churchill County  
**Nature of Project:** requested information on the state of Nevada and national dairy industry.  
**Action:** data collected and sent to Churchill County economic development Authority. (Assignment completed).

8. **Client:** Nevada Future Farmer’s Association  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to occupation opportunities from an agricultural education and the economic impact of agriculture in the state of Nevada economy.  
**Action:** Occupation and economic impact information collected and sent to state office of the Nevada Future Farmer's Association. (Assignment completed).

9. **Client:** Reno-Tahoe Winter Games Coalition  
**Location of Project:** Truckee Meadows Area  
**Nature of Project:** Requested information as to potential economic impact study of a Reno-Tahoe Winter Olympic Games.  
**Action:** Information as to economic impact analysis required was sent to Reno-Tahoe Winter Games Coalition. (Assignment completed).

10. **Client:** Northern Nevada Development Authority  
**Location of Project:** Northern and Central Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** A cluster target of the Governor’s Economic Development Commission is federal defense. Requested a proposal to collect and analyze data for cluster analysis of defense sector.  
**Action:** A proposal was drafted and sent to Northern Nevada Development District. (Assignment completed).

F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** Lander County Project FIND  
**Location of Presentation:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presented the new results of the CBM model with additional business questionnaire data added.  
**Action:** Presentation made in Battle Mountain, Nevada (Assignment completed).
2. **Client:** Lander County Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Presentation:** Battle Mountain, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presented the CBM model and new results to the Lander County Economic Development Authority quarterly Board of Directors meeting.  
**Action:** Presentation of CBM results made at the quarterly meeting of the Lander County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Southern Lyon Hospital Area  
**Location of Presentation:** Yerington, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presented results of data and analysis of the economic linkages and impacts of Southern Lyon Hospital to the Southern Lyon County economy.  
**Action:** Presentation developed and made to Southern Lyon Hospital Board of Directors. (Assignment completed).

4. **Client:** Bolder City Hospital Area  
**Location of Presentation:** Bolder City, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presented results of data and analysis of the economic linkages and impacts of Bolder City Hospital to the Bolder City economy.  
**Action:** Presentation developed and made to the Bolder City Hospital Board of Directors. (Assignment completed).

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

1. **Client:** Rural Counties of Nevada  
**Location of Presentation:** Carson City, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentation:** Presentation of socio-economic data and trends in rural Nevada that would be presented at a SET program.  
**Action:** Presentation developed and made in Carson City. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Laughlin, Nevada  
**Location of Project:** Laughlin, Nevada  
**Nature of Presentations:** Buddy Borden making thirteen presentations the NeXT Level Workshops for entrepreneurship.  
**Action:** Presentations made each week for thirteen weeks. (Assignment continues).
H. Journal Articles and Publications


University Center Technical Reports
For Fiscal Year 2011/12


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


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