University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Third Quarter Report
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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. The Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance on economic development for the third quarter of FY 2008-2009. During the third quarter, the University Center produced five applied research projects, three other research projects, six technical and management assistance projects, nine counseling and referrals, four workshops, one technical presentation, eighteen University Center technical reports, one Cooperative Extension fact sheet, two journal articles and two under review, and two book chapters have been published.

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, Chair and 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; Kynda Curtis, Assistant Professor in the Department of Resource Economics and State Extension Specialist; Man-Keun Kim, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Resource Economics; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Analyst; Ruzanna Yolyan, 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. Eighteen technical reports were published, one Cooperative Extension fact sheet was published, two journal articles were published and two are under review, and two book chapters were published during the third quarter, fiscal year 2008/2009 by the University Center. Four workshops were offered by the University Center to present economic data and results of a 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. Data may be defined for download using a web form and are available in a choice of download formats. 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 for 1992 up to the current date are available to download in Adobe PDF format.

B. Applied Research:

1. Client: City of Pahrump, Nevada
Location of Project: Pahrump, Nevada
Nature of Project: Contacted by Town Manager as to possible analysis of incorporation.
Action: Collection of data and materials for potential proposal. (Assignment continues.)

2. Client: Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Estimate of location factors for biotechnology firms at the state level. Economic impacts of the biotechnology firms in Nevada are also being estimated.
**Action:** Detailed econometric models have been developed to estimate the factors of location for biotechnology firms. Interdependence of location of biotechnology firms is being estimated. A Master’s thesis was completed on this topic. A University Center technical bulletin and two journal articles are being developed and submitted for publication. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client:** Western Rural Development Center  
**Location of Project:** Western States of the Nation  
**Nature of Project:** Western States of Nevada, Montana and Hawaii are developing a model to match businesses with community economic development preferences.  
**Action:** A Community Business Matching model has been developed and has been applied in Anaconda, Montana; Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona. A users’ manual is being developed, as well as a train-the-trainer seminar. (Assignment continues.)

4. **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:** Economic impacts of the healthcare sector in all Nevada counties have been estimated and publications are currently being developed. (Assignment continues.)


5. **Client:** White Pine County Commissioners  
**Location of Project:** White Pine County, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Analysis of county emergency medical services.  
**Action:** Data collection of local emergency medical services underway for White Pine County. A University Center publication has been developed and sent to the City of Ely. (Assignment continues.)

C. Other Research Projects

1. **Client**: Walker River Basin  
**Location of Project**: Walker River Basin  
**Nature of Project**: Estimation of the economic impacts of surface purchases in Lyon County for fresh water flow to Walker Lake.  
**Action**: Two proposals were submitted and accepted for the Walker River Basin Study. The University Center was notified of acceptance of the proposals. Studies have been completed and final reports are being reviewed. (Assignment continues.)


2. **Client**: U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
**Location of Project**: Jarbidge Study Area  
**Nature of Project**: Analysis of study area economic, household income, and employment impacts from alternative public land management policies in the Jarbidge Study Area.  
**Action**: Estimations of economic, household income, and employment impacts in the Jarbidge Study Area have been calculated. Report of findings have been developed and are being reviewed. (Assignment continues.)

3. **Client**: Douglas County Cooperative Extension  
**Location of Project**: Douglas County  
**Nature of Project**: Estimate economic impacts of agricultural sector in Douglas County.  
**Action**: Impacts of agricultural sector in Douglas County estimated and University Center publication drafted and sent to the Douglas County extension office. (Assignment completed.)

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. (Assignment continues).

2. Client: Cooperative Extension
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Extension publication on in-commuters and out-commuters for the state of Nevada and its seventeen counties.
Action: In-commuters and out-commuters data is being collected at the state and county level. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension publications have been developed. Currently four have been published. (Assignment continues.)

3. Client: High Sierra Industries
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Estimate economic impact of expenditures of non-profit industries such as High Sierra Industries.
Action: A study has been initiated to estimate the economic impacts of certain non-profit businesses such as High Sierra Industries. (Assignment completed.)

4. Client: University of Nevada, Reno
Location of Project: State of Nevada
Nature of Project: Request to estimate economic impacts of the University of Nevada, Reno on the Nevada economy and economic impacts of the proposed $73 million cut in the University of Nevada’s budget.
Action: Memorandums were developed and sent to the President’s Office of the University of Nevada, Reno. (Assignment completed.)

5. Client: Douglas County Commissioners
Location of Project: Douglas County, Nevada
Nature of Project: Requested estimation of construction and operation of potential Douglas County Horse Park.
**Action:** Memorandum was drafted which had construction and operation economic, employment, and income impact estimates of the proposed Douglas County Horse Park. (Assignment completed.)

**6. Client:** International Economic Development Council  
**Location of Project:** Carson City and Douglas County  
**Nature of Project:** Requested paper on the border sales tax disputes between Carson City and Douglas County.  
**Action:** Paper drafted and accepted for the Reno meeting. (Assignment continues.)

**E. Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** Nevada Rural Development Council  
   **Location of Project:** Wells, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information pertaining to strategic planning.  
   **Action:** Publications were collected and sent to the Nevada Rural Development Council. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** State of Nevada Commission on Economic Development  
   **Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Discussion with University of Nevada, Reno Technical Learning Services on procedures to have Commission on Economic Development webinars.  
   **Action:** Meeting held and webinar programs are being developed. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Nevada Rural Development Council  
   **Location of Project:** Wells, Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested socio-economic data for Wells, Nevada.  
   **Action:** Socio-economic data collected and sent to Nevada Rural Development Council. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Eureka County Cooperative Extension Office  
   **Location of Project:** Central Nevada  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information as to state grazing fees and land lease rates.
**Action:** A University Center bulletin that analyzed state grazing fees and land lease rates was sent to Eureka County Cooperative Extension office. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** President’s Office of the University of Nevada, Reno  
**Location of Project:** Reno, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested popular memorandum on the economic impacts of UNR and impacts of a proposed $73 million budget reduction for UNR on the Nevada economy.  
**Action:** Memorandum written and sent to President’s Office. (Assignment completed.)

6. **Client:** President’s Office, University of Nevada, Reno  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Request for information as to number green credits under Nevada’s Green Tax Abatement Program.  
**Action:** State of Nevada Department of Taxation was contacted, information collected and sent to the President’s Office. (Assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** Humboldt County Economic Development Authority  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested economic multiplier for museums.  
**Action:** Economic multipliers collected, a memorandum written and sent to Humboldt County Economic Development Authority. (Assignment completed.)

8. **Client:** Silver State Police Officers Museum  
**Location of Project:** Virginia City, Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Requested assistance with potential feasibility project.  
**Action:** Initiate feasibility project. (Assignment continues.)

9. **Client:** University of Nevada, Provost’s Office  
**Location of Project:** Reno Nevada  
**Nature of Project:** Request for all factions of UNR working on business-related ideas to meet.  
**Action:** Presented overview of University Center and how it interacts with UNR. (Assignment completed.)
F. Workshops and Seminars:

1. Client: Rural Economic Development Decision Makers
   Location of Workshop: Reno, Carson City, Caliente, Las Vegas, and Ely, Nevada
   Nature of Presentation: Presentation of potential use of webinars to conduct regional economic development training.
   Action: Webinar presented. (Assignment completed.)

2. Client: Central Nevada Participants
   Location of Workshop: Fallon, Nevada
   Action: Presentation made in Fallon for workshop. (Assignment completed.)

3. Client: Lyon County Participants
   Location of Workshop: Yerington, Nevada
   Action: Presentation made in Yerington for workshop. (Assignment completed.)

4. Client: Washoe County Participants
   Location of Workshop: Reno, Nevada
   Action: Presentation made in Reno for workshop. (Assignment completed.)

5. Client: Northern Nevada Participants
   Location of Workshop: Winnemucca, Nevada
   Nature of Presentation: “Rural Nevada Affordable Housing Forum,” hosted by the San Francisco Federal Reserve. Representatives from ten housing related organizations made presentations concerning assistance available for rural Nevadans’ home-purchasing needs.
   Action: Organizational support supplied by the University Center. (Assignment completed.)
6. **Client:** Northern Nevada Participants

**Location of Workshop:** Winnemucca, Nevada

**Nature of Presentation:** Discussion concerning the need in rural Nevada for HUD-approved homebuyer education courses to enable rural Nevadans eligibility for various government-sponsored, home purchasing assistance programs. Also types of delivery systems for this training were discussed.

**Action:** Organized and participated in discussion of needs for rural Nevadan home buyers. (Assignment completed.)

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

1. **Client:** Elko County Commissioners

**Location of Presentation:** Elko County

**Nature of Presentation:** Present overview of mining study.

**Action:** Overview study presented and study accepted by Elko County Commissioners. (Assignment completed.)

H. **Journal Articles and Proceedings**


I. **Book Chapters**


Curtis, Kynda, Staci Emm and Jason Entsminger. “Economic and Environmental Priorities of Walker River Basin Landowners.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Fact Sheet 08-20, August 2008.


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, Holly Gatzke and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lincoln County: Implications for Lincoln County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Fact Sheet 08-25, September 2008.


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, Gary McCuin and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Eureka County: Implications for Eureka County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Fact Sheet 08-33, October 2008.

