



Name of Project: University of Nevada Reno
Name of Project Director: Janet Usinger, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Address: UNR Dept. of Educational Leadership
UNR MS 283
Reno, NV 89557
Telephone Number: 775-784-6518
Fax Number: 775-784-6766
Email Address: usingerj@unr.edu

**University of Nevada Reno
Higher Education Component of GEAR UP Abstract**

The University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Higher Education component of GEAR UP consists of two distinct components, support for Dean's Future Scholars (DFS) and the evaluation of the entire project. DFS has identified 50 students who will be entering 11th grade in the 2010-2011 academic year. They attend five high schools in Washoe County School District. DFS provides additional academic support to encourage the students to enter the teaching profession. In addition, the students receiving tutoring and are mentored by undergraduate and graduate UNR students. They participate in campus visits to UNR and attend a seven week summer academic enrichment program offered on the UNR campus.

The second higher education responsibility is the evaluation and research. Two approaches, quantitative and qualitative, are being used to provide richness. In addition to the annual quantitative data collected for each GEAR UP middle school, case studies will be conducted at the rural GEAR UP schools. The purpose of the case studies is to assess the climate of each of the schools as well as capture and explore the systemic changes occurring as the schools create a college-going culture.