



**ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY
(ASCE)
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING**

Cuba's Evolving Socio-Economic and Political Landscape

Miami, Florida, August 4-6, 2011

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM

www.ascecuba.org





asce@ascecuba.org
www.ascecuba.org

PO Box 28267
Washington, DC
20038-8267

21st Annual Meetings of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy

Cuba's Evolving Socio-Economic and Political Landscape

August 4-6, 2011

**The Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
1601 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida**

**The Association gratefully acknowledges its secretariat, the
Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies of the University of
Miami**

**Cost: Pre-registration (Before July 15, 2010)
\$75 ASCE-Member \$175 Non-member**

**On-site registration
\$100 ASCE-Member \$200 Non-member**

Friday Luncheon: \$45 (pre-paid), \$50 at the door

Program



Thursday, August 4

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (Symphony Foyer III and IV)

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. OPENING PLENARY (Symphony Ballroom IV)

Opening of Conference: Rafael Romeu, President of ASCE

1. Current Economic and Social Situation

Chair: Rafael Romeu, ASCE President

Joaquín Pujol

Oscar Espinosa Chepe

Marc Frank

Marifeli Pérez-Stable

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. PLENARY SESSION (Symphony Ballroom IV)

2. Economic Implications of Recent Economic Reforms

Chair: Carlos Quijano

Lorenzo Perez, “Cuba: Banking Reforms, the Monetary Guidelines of the Sixth Party Congress and What Needs to be Done.”

Rolando Castañeda, “Cuba: Tres problemas macroeconómicos fundamentales aún pendientes después de treinta años de reformas socioeconómicas”

Gabriel Di Bella & Rafael Romeu, & Andy Wolfe “The Evolution of the Cuban Output Gap”

Discussants: Luis Luis; Geni Gómez; Armando Linde

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. LUNCH BREAK

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

3. Financial and Macroeconomic Issues

Chair: Oscar Echevarría

Luis R. Luis, “Economic Impact of the New Employment, Financial and Tax Policies”

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, “Market Liberalization, Macroeconomic Policies and Labor Transfers”

Gabriel Di Bella & Rafael Romeu, & Andy Wolfe, “Priority Macro-Fiscal Reforms to Underpin Economic Stability in Cuba”

Discussants: Roger Betancourt, Luis Locay



4. Cuban Law: Property, Investment, and Policy

Chair: Stephen Kimmerling

Rolando Anillo, "Cuban Claims: Laws and Policies; Cuban Foreign Investment Laws: New Strategies and Approaches"

Tony Zamora, "Cuban Real Estate Developments; U.S. Federal Regulations: Remittances and Microfinance"

Jose Manuel Pallí, "Cuban Property Rights: Evolution and Updates"

Discussant: Jose Gabilondo, Pedro Freyre

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

4:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

5. Agriculture

Chair: Gary Maybarduk

William Messina, "Cuba's Shifting Agricultural Policy and Food Import Patterns, and the Evolving Role of U.S. Agriculture"

G. B. Hagelberg, "Cuba's Agriculture: Limping Reforms, Lame Results"

Antonio Gayoso, "Cuban Agricultural Policy in the Context of Other Reforms"

Mario Gonzalez-Corzo, "Cuba's Recent Agricultural Reforms: Towards Market Socialism?"

Discussant: Marc Frank; Rolando Castañeda

6. VI Party Congress and Beyond

Chair: Joaquín Pujol

Enrique Pumar, "Party Congresses as Mechanisms of Social Control"

Jorge Sanguinety, "The Development of a Subsistence Economy as an Attempt to Save Socialism in Cuba"

Oscar Echevarría, "Reconstrucción Económica de Cuba después del Socialismo"

Discussants: María Aristigueta (Pumar); Roberto Orro (Sanguinety and Echevarría)

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. WELCOMING RECEPTION (Concerto Ballroom A)





Friday, August 5

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (Symphony Foyer III)

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

7. Education and the VI Party Congress

Chair: Rogelio de la Torre

Larry Catá Backer, "Cuba's 6th Party Congress, the Lineamientos (Guidelines) and Structural Change In Cuba: Refashioning Education in the Service of the State?"

Ted Henken, "Maintaining an Independent Voice in a Polarized Political Context: The Case of Cuba's Four Blogger Collectives"

Larry Press, "The State of the Internet in Cuba, January 2011"

Discussants: Michael Strauss; Rogelio de la Torre

8. Cuban International Medical Missions

Chair: Jorge Sanguinety

Maria Werlau, "Cuba's Business of Humanitarianism: The Medical Mission in Haiti"

Pablo de Cuba, "Misiones médicas cubanas en Venezuela: implicaciones legales"

Rodolfo J. Stusser, "Demystifying the Cuban Health System: An Insider's View"

Discussant: Efrén Córdova; Others TBA

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

10:45 a.m. – 12:45 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

9. Affirmative Action/Acción Afirmativa: Consideraciones demográficas y política financiera para un desarrollo sostenible

Chair: Antonio Arencibia

Ileana Fuentes, Red Femenina Cubana, "Propietaria, empresaria o prostituta: Hacia una política agresiva de equidad y desarrollo"

Virgilio Calvo, "Políticas financieras para un desarrollo sostenible"

Juan F. Benemelis, "A 100 años del frustrado Plan Morúa y la Guerra de 1912: Rectificar la marginación económica de la mayoría"

Discussant: Eugenio Yáñez

10. Student Papers

Chair: Enrique Pumar

Ingrid Lucía Pérez, George Washington University, "Uncharted Waters: U.S. Immigration Policies Toward Cuba and its Effect on Migration Patterns"

Jose Vazquez, Georgetown University, "Cuban Fragmentation: Fidel Castro's Weapon for Consolidating Power and Surviving Politically"

Erin Flynn McKenna, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Cuba's Capitalism: Tourists' Experiences with the Cuban Economy"

Nelson Perez-Jacome & Roberto Jimenez, Florida International University "An Evaluation of Cuba's Transportation Infrastructure."

12:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **ASCE LUNCHEON** (Concerto Ballroom A)

1:30 p.m. Student Awards Announcement and Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address Dedication



1:45 p.m. **Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address** by Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS** (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

11. Transnational Issues

Chair: Mario González-Corzo

Manuel Orozco, "Remittance Recipients and the Present and Future of Micro-Entrepreneurship Activities in Cuba"

Slivia Pedraza, "The Reunification of West and East Germany: Implications for Cuba's Transition"

Sergio Díaz-Briquets and Jorge Pérez-López, "The Cuban Diaspora and the Tourism Sector"

Discussants: Emilio Morales (Orozco); Tania Mastrapa (Pedraza, Díaz-Briquets/Pérez-López)

12. Special Topics

Chair: Geni Gomez

Jorge L. Romeu, "Cuba 1945-2010: vía el análisis demográfico de su masonería regular"

Ilan Ehrlich, "Ramón Grau San Martín: Cuba's Prophet of Disappointment"

Mallorie Marino, "The Cuban Apparatus for Active Measures: Propaganda and Disinformation against the United States"

Yociel Marrero, "La implementación en Cuba de una "Door Step Economy" y el desarrollo sostenible soñado: Otros caminos probables"

Discussants: Roger Betancourt (Romeu and Ehrlich); Antonio Gayoso (Marino); Joseph Scarpaci (Marrero)

4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. **COFFEE BREAK** (Symphony Foyer III)

4:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS** (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

13. Foreign Policy and the VI Party Congress

Chair: Ambassador Mauricio Solaún

Gary Maybarduk, "U.S. Foreign Policy Response to the Sixth Party Congress and the Earlier Economic Reforms"

Miriam Leiva, "Cuba en el contexto internacional: Relaciones con Estados Unidos"

Arturo López-Levy, "Change in Post-Fidel Cuba: Political Liberalization, Economic Reform and Lessons for US Policy"

Discussants: Alfred Cuzan, René Costales (López-Levy)

14. Architecture and Cuban Culture

Chair: Jorge Sanguinety

Raúl Álvarez, "Architectural Environment in Cuba during the 1950s"

Hilario Candela, "The Contribution of Cuban Architects in Exile"

Alfredo D. Echeverría, "A Search for the Cuban Soul in Architecture"

Discussants: Jorge Hernández, Jorge Sanguinety

6:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **ASCE Business Meeting** (Concerto Ballroom D)

President's Report, Rafael Romeu

Secretary's Report, Tania Mastrapa

Treasurer's Report, Geni Gomez



Saturday, August 6

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (Symphony Foyer III)

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

15. La Cuba que viene en camino: perspectivas para los próximos años

Chair: Emilio Morales

Joseph Scarpaci “Consumption, service quality, and retail brands: A critical-historical analysis of Cuban retailing”

Rolando Castañeda, “Papel que podrían jugar los micro-créditos y las PYMES en el cambio del modelo económico cubano”

José Remón, “Las telecomunicaciones, la telefonía celular, el futuro de Internet en la isla y su efecto en la sociedad cubana actual y el rol que puede jugar en el proceso de cambio del modelo económico”

Emilio Morales, “Las remesas y el rol de los cubanos que viven en el exterior ayudando a invertir a sus familiares en la isla”

16. External Sector Issues

Chair: Carlos Seiglie

Gerardo González Núñez and Roberto Orro Fernández, “La Industria Turística Cubana: ¿Cuántos Turistas Norteamericanos Puede Cuba Recibir?”

Carlos Antonio Romero, Universidad Central de Venezuela, “Las relaciones económicas entre Venezuela y Cuba”

Jorge Pérez-López, “Cuba’s External Sector and the Sixth Party Congress”

Discussants: José Raúl Perales (Gonzalez/Orro); Gabriel Di Bella (Romero and Pérez-López)

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

10:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Concerto Ballroom B and D)

17. Sectoral Issues

Chair: Aldo Leiva

John Paron and María Aristigueta, “Opening the Door to Cuba by Reinventing Guantanamo: Creating a Cuba-US Biofuel Production Capability in Guantanamo”

Jorge Piñón, “Cuba’s Energy Situation: Recent Developments”

Juan Tomás Sánchez, “Sugarcane Mechanical Harvesting: Technology, Economics, and Future Applications and Business Economics in Cuba”

Discussants: Michael Strauss (Paron/Aristigueta); Antonio Gayoso

18. Social Issues and the VI Party Congress

Chair: Tania Mastrapa

Elaine Scheye, “The VI Congress Guidelines on Cuban Biotechnology and Health Care: Just What the Doctor Ordered or a Bitter Pill to Swallow?”

Sergio Diaz-Briquets, “Minimalism, Obsolescence and Transferability: The Labor Market Impact of the New Self-Employment Regulations”

Ted Henken, “The Resurrection of the Cuban Paladar?: Cuba’s Restaurateurs Gamble on Hope Amid Skepticism”

Discussants: Larry Catá-Backer (Scheye); René Costales (Díaz-Briquets and Henken)



**Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy
Board of Directors (2010-2012)**

Rafael Romeu, President
Jorge A. Sanguinetty, Vice-President
Tania Mastrapa, Secretary
Geni Gomez, Treasurer
Rolando H. Castañeda
Antonio Gayoso
Stephen Kimmerling
Luis R. Luis
Gary Maybarduk
Roberto Orro
Marifeli Pérez-Stable
Jorge Piñón
Enrique Pumar

Main Committees Chairs

Annual Conference Program: Jorge Pérez-López
Annual Conference Organization: Joaquín P. Pujol
Student Papers Prize and Occasional Papers: Enrique Pumar
Fund-raising: Jorge A. Sanguinetty
Editor Cuba in Transition: Jorge Pérez-López
American Economic Association ASCE Session Coordinator: Luis Locay
Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lectures Coordinator: Lorenzo Pérez
Media/Press Clipping Service: Joaquín P. Pujol
Newsletter: Geni Gómez and Rolando Castañeda
Webpage: Geni Gómez and Rolando Castañeda
Elections Nominating Committee: Roger Betancourt
Election Teller Committee: Carlos Montoulieu

Former Presidents

Felipe Pazos †
Roger Betancourt
Jorge Pérez-López
Armando M. Lago †
Antonio Gayoso
Lorenzo Pérez
Sergio Díaz-Briquets
Carlos N. Quijano
Beatriz Casals
Ernesto Hernández-Catá
Armando S. Linde
Jorge A. Sanguinetty