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ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

PO Box 28267
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**ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)
TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING**

Reforming Cuba?

Miami, Florida, August 1-3, 2013

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



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23rd Annual Meetings of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy

Reforming Cuba?

August 1-3, 2013

The Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
1601 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida

The Association gratefully acknowledges its sponsors, as well as logistical support from 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

Online Conference Registration

<http://www.ascecuba.org>

Hotel Reservations

<http://bit.ly/15hJdbe>





ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

Thursday, August 1

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** (Concerto Ballroom A)

Conference Opening: Ted Henken, ASCE President

1. An Overview of Reforms

Chair: Joaquín Pujol, International Monetary Fund (Retired)

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh, “Overview of Cuba’s Reforms and Their Effects”

Rolando H. Castañeda, “Cuba: Análisis de las Reformas Socioeconómicas Raulistas, 2007-2013. Principales Logros y Limitaciones. Imperativo de las Reformas Difíciles”

René Gómez Manzano, Havana, Cuba based attorney (invited)

Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **COFFEE BREAK**

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION** (Concerto Ballroom A)

2. Implications of Reforms

Chair: Carlos Quijano, World Bank (retired)

Archibald Ritter, Carleton University, “The Potential and Pitfalls of Cuba’s Move Toward Non-Agricultural Cooperatives”

Vegard Bye, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, “Political Implications of Economic Reforms”

Armando Chaguaceda, Universidad Veracruzana, “Cuba: políticas de participación y prácticas de autonomía en tiempo de reformas”

Maria Werlau, “Updating the Model: Where is Cuba Heading?”

Discussants: Felipe Manteiga (Ritter, Bye); Antonio Gayoso (Chaguaceda, Werlau)

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **LUNCH BREAK**





2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. PLENARY SESSION

(Concerto Ballroom A)

3. Reforms and the External Sector

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University

Richard Feinberg, “FDI in Cuba: Old Obstacles and New Opportunities”

Jordan Valdés, Small Business Administration “Small Business Development in the Export Context”

Gabriel Di Bella, Rafael Romeu & Andy Wolfe, “Cuba’s External Trade: What do the data say?”

Gregory Biniowsky, Canadian attorney working as an international development consultant in Cuba, “Cuba – Present and Emerging Opportunities for Foreign Funded Philanthropy and Nonprofit Projects”

Discussants: Luis Luis (Feinberg & Biniowsky), Bryan Roberts (Di Bella et. al, Valdés)

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. PLENARY SESSION

4. What Needs to be Done to Promote Growth and Opportunities in Cuba?

Chair: Lorenzo Pérez, International Monetary Fund (Retired)

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, IMF (Retired), Macroeconomic Framework: Fiscal, Monetary, and Exchange Rate Policy

Luis R. Luis, Independent Consultant, Capital Market Access, External Debt Restructuring, & FDI

Jorge Sanguinety, DevTech Systems, The Rule of Law and lessons from the former Soviet Union

Antonio Gayoso, George Washington University, Policy Reforms in the Agricultural Sector

5:20 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address

(Concerto Ballroom A)

Economics and Immigration: Lessons for Policy

By George J. Borjas

Robert W. Scrivner Professor of Economics and Social Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School

6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. WELCOMING RECEPTION

(Concerto Ballroom C)





Friday, August 2

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (Concerto A Foyer)

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

5. Legal Issues (Concerto Ballroom A)

Chair: Stephen Kimmerling, Attorney, Consultant

Larry Catá Backer, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar and Professor of Law; Professor of International Affairs, The Dickinson School of Law, The Pennsylvania State University, “Legal Constraints on Economic Activity—Reforming Cuban Corporate and Cooperative Law”

Daniel Buigas, Attorney, Leiva Law P.A., “The Electoral System in a Democratic Cuba”

Antonio Zamora, Attorney, Adjunct Professor of Law, Florida International University College of Law, “The Legal Relations Between the U.S. and Cuba”

Laritz Diversent, Cuban Attorney and Blogger (invited), “Aspectos legales y sociales de las reformas migratorias recientes”

Discussants: Pedro Freyre, Shareholder; Chair, International Practice, Akerman Senterfitt LLP; Lecturer in Law, Columbia University School of Law; and Jorge Esquirol, Florida International University

6. Cuba-Venezuela Economic Issues (Concerto Ballroom B)

Chair: Armando Linde, IMF (Retired)

Gabriel Di Bella, Rafael Romeu & Andy Wolfe, “Venezuela’s Economic Risks and their Regional Impact”

Rolando H. Castañeda, “La Economía Venezolana en 2013: Situación, Perspectivas e Implicaciones”

Domingo Amuchastegui, “Cuba: The Impact of Venezuela”

Discussants: Oscar Echevarría (Castañeda, Amuchastegui); Luis Locay (DiBella et. al)

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

7. External Relations

Chair: Larry Catá Backer, The Pennsylvania State University

Roger B. Betancourt, “Should the U.S. Lift the Embargo? Yes, It Already Did and It Depends”

Luis R. Luis, “Cuba: External Debt and Finance in the Context of Limited Reforms”

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, “Cuba, the Soviet Union and Venezuela: A Tale of Dependence and Shock”

Discussants: Lorenzo Pérez (Luis, Hernández-Catá); William Trumbull, The Citadel (Betancourt)

8. Student Papers (Concerto Ballroom B)

Chair: Enrique Pumar, The Catholic University of America

Margarita Giraldo and Seth Marini, University of Miami, “Biohydrogen as an Alternative Energy Source for Cuba”

Daniel Pedreira, George Mason University, “Cuba’s Prospects for a Military Oligarchy”

Roberto Armengol, University of Virginia, “Competitive Solidarity and the Political Economy of Invento”

Jared M. Genova, University of Texas “¡Hasta la utopía siempre! Conflicting utopian ideologies in Havana’s late socialist housing market”

Emily Snyder, University of Florida, “The Fist of Lazaro is the Fist of his Generation. Lazaro Saavedra and New Cuban Art as Dissidence.”

Roberto Gonzalez, University of North Carolina, “Infant Mortality in Cuba: Myth and Reality”

Discussants: Mario González-Corzo, Joseph Scarpaci, Cynthia Romero, José Luis Leyva Cruz



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

12:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. ASCE LUNCHEON

(Concerto Ballroom C)

1:35 p.m. – Presentation of Cuba-based Scholars

2:00 p.m. Student Awards Announcement

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9. Revolution and Economic Development

(Concerto Ballroom A)

Chair: Ramon Barquín III, Barquín International Corporation;

Gary Maybarduk, “Four Revolutions and Their Current and Future Aftermath: Argentina, Nicaragua, Venezuela and Cuba”

Jorge A. Sanguinety, DevTech Systems, Inc. and Development Research Center, “Cuba’s Economic Policies: Development or Subsistence?”

Silvia Pedraza and Carlos Romero, “Cuba and Venezuela: Revolution and Reform”

Discussants: Nick Sánchez, College of the Holy Cross (Maybarduk); Armando Linde (Sanguinety, Pedraza/Romero)

10. Sectoral Issues

(Concerto Ballroom B)

Chair: Helena Solo–Gabriele

Emilio Morales & Joseph L. Scarpaci, “Real-estate in Cuba: A Half-hearted Opening”

José Perelló, University of Havana (invited), “Cuba’s Tourism Outcomes Through 2013”

Mario González-Corzo, “Estonia’s Post-Soviet Agricultural Reforms: Experience and Lessons for Cuba?”

Discussants: William Messina, University of Florida (González-Corzo); Antonio Zamora (Morales/Scarpacci, Perelló)

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. PLENARY SESSION

11. Conversation on Cuban Civil Society Today

(Concerto Ballroom A)

Chair: Geni Gómez, Etrade Financal

Roberto Veiga and Lenier González, Co-Editors, *Espacio Laical*, “El Laboratorio Casa Cuba y el documento ‘Cuba soñada – Cuba posible – Cuba futura: propuestas para nuestro porvenir inmediato’”

José Luis Leyva Cruz, Universidad de Camagüey, “Proyecto Despertando Líderes: Una alternativa para la formación de líderes de excelencia en Cuba”

Antonio Rodiles and Alexis Jardines, Estado de Sats, “La demanda ciudadana Por Otra Cuba y los obstáculos para un diálogo nacional inclusivo”

Yociel Marrero, Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez Sobre la Naturaleza y el Hombre, “Economistas y Politólogos, Blogueros y Sociólogos: y quién habla de los Recursos Naturales?”

Discussants: Armando Chaguaceda (Veiga/González, Rodiles); Ricardo Herrero, Cuba Study Group (Leyva Cruz), Rogelio de la Torre (Marrero)

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. ASCE Business Meeting (Concerto Ballroom D)

President’s Report, Ted Henken

Secretary’s Report, Stephen Kimmerling

Treasurer’s Report, Geni Gomez



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

Saturday, August 3

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (Concerto A Foyer)

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

12. Social Networks in Cuba (Concerto Ballroom A)

Chair: Ted Henken, CUNY Baruch College

Soren Triff, "Change from Below and Reform from Above: The Cuban Blogosphere as a Space of Contention/Persuasion"

Ted Henken, Baruch College, "Internet, Public Sphere, and Cuban Civil Society: Navigating between the Scylla of State Capture and the Charybdis of Foreign Support"

Nora Gámez, "Technology Domestication, Cultural Public Sphere, and Popular Music in Contemporary Cuba"

Emily Parker, New America Foundation, "Internet and Society in China and Cuba: A Comparative Look"

Discussants: Abel Sierra-Madero; others TBA

13. Demography and Social Issues (Concerto Ballroom B)

Chair: Maria Werlau

Enrique Pumar, "Poverty and its Effect on Social Control"

Rodolfo Stusser, "Cuba's health care policies' long tradition: Implications of results for other nations"

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, "A Century of Cuban Demographic Interactions"

Discussants: Jorge Duany (Pumar and Díaz-Briquets), Darsi Ferrer (Stusser)

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

14. Entrepreneurship in Cuba (Concerto Ballroom A)

Chair: José Ramón de la Torre, Florida International University

Ted Henken, "En cada barrio, merolicos; en cada pantalla, revolico.com: Can Raul's Reforms Keep Up with the Cuban People's Entrepreneurial Ingenuity?"

Karina Gálvez, Instituto Politécnico de Economía Rafael Ferro, Pinar del Río, "El Trabajo Por Cuenta Propia en la Cuba Contemporánea: Oportunidades Nuevas y Trabas Latentes en las Fuerzas Productivas"

Felipe Manteiga, "La pequeña y mediana empresa: aliada potencial a la apertura económica cubana bajo la Administración de Raúl Castro"

William A. Messina and Frederick S. Royce, University of Florida, "Cuba's Agricultural Production Cooperatives: Feeling Adam Smith's Invisible Hand or Central Planning's Inescapable Backhand?"

Discussants: Joe Scarpaci (Messina, Manteiga), Jorge Sanguinety (Henken, Gálvez)

15. Diaspora Issues (Concerto Ballroom B)

Chair: Jorge Duany, Florida International University

Juan Antonio Blanco, "Cuba: ¿remesas de conocimiento?"

María Dolores Espino, "Diaspora Tourism in Cuba: Performance, Potential and Impact"

Juan Luis Aguiar Muxella and Luis E. Mejer Sarra, "La trayectoria del Colegio Farmacéutico Cubano en el Exilio"

Discussants: Sergio Díaz-Briquets (Aguiar); Emilio Morales, THCG (Blanco, Espino)



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

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Ernesto Hernández-Catá
Armando S. Linde
Jorge A. Sanguinety
Rafael Romeu

Student prize: Enrique Pumar, José Álvarez, Roger Betancourt, Alfred G. Cuzán, Maria Dolores Espino, Mario Gonzalez-Corzo, Ted Henken, Stuart Lippe, Lorenzo Perez, Jorge Luis Romeu, Joseph Scarpaci, Elaine Scheye, Mauricio Solaum



PRESS RELEASE

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7/1/2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE 23rd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY
WILL TAKE PLACE AUGUST 1-3 IN MIAMI

Reforming Cuba?

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) will hold its 23rd Annual Conference at the Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel (1601 Biscayne Boulevard) from Thursday, August 1 through Saturday, August 3, 2013. The conference will focus on recent developments in the economic, political and social situation in Cuba and the challenges for the future. The overall theme is "Reforming Cuba?"

We anticipate a record number of conference attendees from the island itself this year, including the economists Armando Nova (*Centro de Estudios de la Economía Cubana*) and Karina Gálvez (*Convivencia* magazine), computer science professor José Luiz Leyva Cruz (University of Camagüey), Lenier González and Roberto Viega co-editors of *Espacio Laical*, the historian and political scientist Armando Chaguaceda (University of Veracruz), the independent lawyer Laritza Diversent (*Jurisconsulto de Cuba*), and the mathematician and *Estado de Sats* coordinator Antonio Rodiles. We also anticipate welcoming Yociel Marrero and René Gómez Manzano.

In all, approximately one-hundred economists, social scientists, and other experts from Cuba, the United States, and other countries will present their work on the policy challenges facing Cuba, including: the ongoing political, social and economic changes; agricultural policies; banking, credit and tax policies; revisions to the civil code, property rights and foreign investment; labor conditions, self employment and micro-enterprises; the Cuban Diaspora, remittances and private micro-investments and tourism; health conditions, biotechnology and Cuban international medical missions; energy and petroleum; education; bloggers and the impact of the Internet; and Cuba-Venezuela relations.

George J. Borjas, the Robert W. Scrivner Professor of Economics and Social Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School will deliver the Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address. Accredited journalists are welcomed to attend the conference and the registration fee is waived (though the luncheon costs \$50).

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy is a non-profit, non-political organization incorporated in the state of Maryland in 1990 affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Allied Social Sciences Association. The primary mission of the Association is to study the transition to a free market economy and an open society in Cuba, as well as to promote scholarship, research, and make available publications by its members. ASCE supports a broad range of research which focuses primarily on economic developments but also pays due attention to the social, legal, demographic and environmental problems.

For information about ASCE, the conference [program](#), and pre-registration forms please visit www.ascecuba.org or contact Joaquín Pujol at asce@ascecuba.org or jppujol342@aol.com.

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7/1/2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

La Vigésima Tercera Reunión de la Asociación Para El Estudio de la Economía Cubana Se Dará del 1º al 3º de agosto en Miami

¿Reformando a Cuba?

La Asociación para el Estudio de la Economía Cubana (ASCE) anuncia que su Vigésima Tercera Conferencia Anual tendrá lugar en el hotel Hilton Miami Downtown, 1601 Biscayne Boulevard, Florida, USA del jueves 1 al sábado 3 de agosto de 2013. El programa, cuyo tema es “¿Reformando a Cuba?” incluye dos días y medio de sesiones sobre la situación política, económica y social en Cuba y los desafíos para el futuro.

Anticipamos un número record de conferencistas que vienen directamente de Cuba este año, incluyendo a los economistas Armando Nova (*Centro de Estudios de la Economía Cubana*) y Karina Gálvez (*Convivencia*), profesor de informática José Luiz Leyva Cruz (Universidad de Camagüey), Lenier González y Roberto Viega co-editores de *Espacio Laical*, el historiador y politólogo Armando Chaguaceda (Universidad de Veracruz), la abogada independiente Laritza Diversent (*Jurisconsulto de Cuba*), y el coordinador de *Estado de Sats* Antonio Rodiles. Además, anticipamos la participación de Yociel Marrero y René Gómez Manzano.

Aproximadamente 100 expertos provenientes de Cuba, los Estados Unidos y de otros países harán presentaciones sobre la situación actual en Cuba, centrándose en los retos que se le presentan a las autoridades con respecto a las políticas económicas en el contexto de la crisis global, los cambios políticos, sociales y económicos internos, y las reformas que se están efectuando; el impacto de las políticas agrícolas; cambios en las políticas bancarias, de crédito e impositivas; modificaciones a los derechos de propiedad y la inversión extranjera; las condiciones laborales, el trabajo por cuenta propia y las actividades de las micro-empresas; la diáspora, las remesas y las implicaciones para las micro-empresas y el turismo; el sector energético; la situación del sector de educación; los blogueros y su impacto en el Internet; y la relaciones de Cuba con Venezuela y con los Estados Unidos.

George J. Borjas, el Profesor “Robert W. Scrivner” de Economía y Política Social de la escuela Kennedy de políticas públicas de la Universidad de Harvard dará la ponencia principal en honor a la memoria de Ernesto Betancourt. Miembro de la prensa son bienvenidos sin tener que pagar la inscripción de la conferencia, aunque el almuerzo especial cuesta \$50.

La Asociación para el Estudio de la Economía Cubana (ASCE) es una organización sin fines de lucro ni afiliación política radicada en el Estado de Maryland. Desde su fundación en 1990, ASCE ha tenido como su objetivo fundamental promover el estudio de los problemas económicos de Cuba en un sentido amplio, así como de las políticas a implementar para una futura transición a una economía de libre mercado en el contexto de una sociedad democrática. Con estos fines, ASCE promueve estudios, investigaciones y publicación de ponencias sobre la economía cubana, así como de las implicaciones de tipo social, legal, demográficas y políticas. Para obtener más información sobre ASCE, el [programa](#), programa detallado de la Conferencia y las planillas de registro dirigirse a www.ascecuba.org o ponerse en contacto con Joaquín P. Pujol a través de asce@ascecuba.org o jppujol342@aol.com

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ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

Member Benefits

- !! Receive regular news and comprehensive information on Cuba via an **electronic clipping service exclusive to members**.
- !! Receive a **quarterly newsletter** with information on ASCE and upcoming events.
 - !! Enjoy **reduced fees** for the annual conference and other ASCE events.
 - !! Purchase the Annual Volume of **conference proceedings** for just \$25.
- !! Elect the Board, run for office, and enjoy **all member rights** afforded by the by-laws.

Membership Annual Dues

- Regular Member: \$90
- Contributing Member: \$91-200
- Sponsor: \$201 - \$350
- Benefactor: over \$350
- Student Member: \$25
- Lifetime Member: \$2,500
- *Institutional Member: Min. \$90

**Institutional memberships: Educational institutions, business and law firms, etc. may send one representative to members' meetings who may not run for office and will have voice, but no vote.*

Sign up at www.ASCECuba.org.

Membership is renewed annually and currently runs from July 1st to June 30th.

What is ASCE?

The **Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy** (ASCE) is a non-profit non-political organization incorporated in Maryland in 1990. Its mission is to study the elements and processes of a transition to a free market democracy in Cuba and to promote consonant scholarship, research, and publications by its members. Emphasis is given to economic, financial, social, legal, and environmental issues. ASCE is affiliated with the **American Economic Association** and the **Allied Social Sciences Association** of the United States and maintains professional contacts with economists and other experts inside Cuba in furtherance of its mission.

Members reside in the U.S., Latin America, and Europe and come from many professions –economists, engineers, lawyers, journalists, political scientists, business people, officials from international organizations and governments, consultants, university students, and other professions. Many are Cuba experts.

Board of Directors. ASCE's Board is elected by its members for a two-year period. Board members, who reside in different U.S. cities, serve pro-bono.

Activities

- **Annual Meeting**, held in Miami, Florida each August: Specialists present papers and participate in roundtable discussions during the 2½ day conference.
- **Annual lecture** and **occasional conferences/seminars** throughout the year in Washington, D.C., New York and other cities.
- ASCE-sponsored sessions on Cuba at the annual meetings of the **American Economic Association**.
- Publication of a volume of **Annual Conference Papers and Proceedings** -Widely used inside and outside of Cuba by universities, research centers, government agencies, and others.
- **Dedicated website** containing all **Annual Papers and Proceedings** among other information.
- **Annual prize** for a best paper on Cuba by a university student.

ASCE's activities are financed through membership dues, event registrations, publication sales, and sponsorship by universities, foundations, private corporations, and individuals.

Go to www.AsceCuba.org to join and find By-laws, activities, and scholarly work on Cuba.