

CUBA IN TRANSITION

Volume 12

Papers and Proceedings of the

Twelfth Annual Meeting
of the
Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE)

Coral Gables, Florida
August 1–3, 2002

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PREFACE

This volume of *Cuba in Transition* brings together papers and selected commentaries presented at the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Association of the Study of the Cuban Economy, which took place August 1-3, 2002, in Coral Gables, Florida. As with previous volumes, this collection of papers and commentaries covers a wide range of topics related to Cuba's economy and society: the current economic situation, macroeconomics, foreign investment, the external sector, tourism, agriculture, transition issues, governance and the role of civil society, legal issues, and demography.

The theme for the Twelfth Annual Meeting was "The State, Institutions and the Market Economy." As the world enters the 21st Century, we have learned that where there is no state, there can be no development. The state must lay the foundation for the market to flourish. We also have learned that private property cannot exist without a governmental apparatus, ready and able to secure not only individuals rights—such as free speech and social justice—but also people's individual holdings. In short, institutions and the rule of law are central to the development process. At the Twelfth Meeting, we heard several important presentations on this key relationship from invited experts and meeting participants. We also held a special half-day session on August 3, entitled "Renovaciones o reincidencias: La democracia cubana en el nuevo siglo," which brought together prominent speakers to discuss the constitutional basis for a democratic Cuba and related issues. We will issue the papers and discussions at this session as the second volume of the ASCE Occasional Studies.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of ASCE, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jorge Pérez-López and Joseph L. Scarparci for preparing and editing this volume of *Cuba in Transition*. I also would like to thank the Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies of the University of Miami for its cooperation at the annual meeting and its generous contribution in support of this volume's publication.

Beatriz C. Casals
ASCE President

IN MEMORIAM

Evaldo A. Cabarrouy (1945–2002)

On August 8, 2002, Evaldo A. Cabarrouy, Professor of Economics and Finance at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, passed away unexpectedly in Puerto Rico. The recipient of a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Texas, Evaldo was a long-term member and supporter of ASCE, as well an esteemed friend and colleague. He joined the University of Puerto Rico in 1985, after serving as director of the MBA Program at the Universidad del Turabo. He also was a Visiting Professor at the Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies under the City University of New York-University of Puerto Rico Academic Exchange Program during the 2001-2002 academic years. From 1990 to 1991, he was Program Economic Advisor to the U.S. Agency for International Development in El Salvador and in 1992 Advisor to the Governor of Puerto Rico on economic development. Earlier in his career, he was a Latin American Teaching Fellow, a Fullbright Scholar in Colombia, and a participant in the U.S. Information Agency Overseas Speakers Program. Evaldo's research on Cuba centered on fiscal and monetary issues and more recently on the role of small and medium enterprises. He presented several papers at the annual meetings and frequently served as discussant or session chair. Evaldo had just participated in the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Association a few days before his untimely death. Evaldo also maintained strong collegial relationships with economists in Cuba. Those of us who study the Cuban economy and knew Evaldo will miss not only his professional contributions, but also his friendship, generosity and good humor. May our esteemed colleague rest in peace.