ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY
OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)

Fifteenth Annual Meeting
Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, Miami, Florida
August 4–6, 2005

Conference Program

Current Economic and Social Situation
Ernesto Hernández-Catá, ASCE President
Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh
Jorge Sanguinetty, DevTech Systems
Juan del Aguila, Emory University
Frank Mora, National War College

Institutions and Policies in the Transition
Joaquín Pujol, International Monetary Fund (retired)
Ernesto Hernández-Catá, John Hopkins University
Egor Gaydar, Former Prime Minister, Russian Federation
Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland
Ricardo Lago, Visiting Professor, Florida International University

Structural Issues, Social Capital, and International Economic Relations
Malformaciones Estructurales de la Economía Cubana
Manuel García Díaz, Universidad de Granada,
The Invisible Ruins of a Society: The Case of Social Capital in Cuba
Jorge Sanguinetty, DevTech Systems,
Deconstructing ‘Constructive Engagement’: Canada’s Economic Relations with Cuba, 1993-2003
Eric N. Baklanoff and LaShondra Jones, University of Alabama,
Discussants: Armando Linde, IMF; Luis Locay, University of Miami; Julia Sagebien, Dalhousie University

Governance Issues
Raúl Castro and the Changing Face of the Cuban Military
Brian Latell
Una Constitución para la Transición en Cuba
Agustín de Goytisolo, Arán, Correa, Guarch & Shapiro, P.A.
Castro Must Go, But How? A Brief History of Castrology and a Look for the Real Scenarios in Which Castro Might Leave the Scene
Brian Alexander
Cuba in Transition · ASCE 2005

Discussants: Domingo Amuchástegui; Alfred Cuzán, University of West Florida; Frank Mora, National War College

Social and Economic Issues
An Assessment of ECLAC’s “Política Social y Reformas Estructurales en Cuba a Principios del Siglo XXI”
Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh, and Jorge Pérez-López
La Economía Cubana en Cifras: ¿Una Economía Real o Virtual?
Manuel García Díaz, Universidad de Granada
What’s Wrong with Cuba’s Equity-Without-Growth Model?
Javier Corrales, Amherst Collage
Discussants: María Dolores Espino, St. Thomas University; Antonio Gayoso; Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland

Energy Issues
Cuba’s Energy Challenge
Jorge Piñón Cervera, Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, University of Miami
Energy Trends in Transition Economies and Their Implications for Cuba
A. F. Alhajji and Terry L. Maris, Center for Cuban Business Studies, Ohio Northern University
La industria cañera (sucro-alcoholera) de Brasil y su interés para invesión en Cuba
Juan Tomás Sánchez
Discussants: Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Dan Erikson, Inter-American Dialogue; Vivian Vizcaíno

Real Estate I: Legal & Regulatory Issues
Real Property Restitution: Risks for Claimants and Investors
Tania Mastrapa, Mastrapa Consultants,
Land Registration in Cuba: Past, Present and Future
Jose Palli, World Wide Title
Tax Implications for U.S. Investors and Restitution Claimants
Timothy Ashby, Duane Morris LLP
Discussant: Nicolás J. Gutierrez, Jr., Borgognoni, Gutiérrez & Arza, LLP

Special Topics
El Caribe Hispano y su Influencia para una Transición en Cuba
Jorge L. Romeu, Syracuse University
Españoles y cubanos: conflictos y estereotipos
Dominga González Suárez, Universidad de Granada
Cuba’s Riverine Gallery Forests
Larry Daley, Oregon State University
Discussants: Alfred Cuzán, University of West Florida; Virgilio Blanco, Middlesex County College; Eudel Cepeño

Real Estate II: Development Issues and Scenarios
Real Estate Investment: Law & Finance Issues
Antonio Zamora, Hughes & Hubbard,
Zoning and Land Use Issues
Andrés Duany, Duany Plater-Zyberg & Co.,
Condominiums vs. Cooperatives: Possible Roles in the Future Transformation of Havana’s Economy
Mario Gonzalez Corzo, Lehman College,
Discussant: Joseph Scarpaci, Virginia Tech
Agricultural Trade: Legal and Economic Issues
The Agricultural Export Facilitation Act of 2005: Its Rationale and Relevance for U.S.-Cuba Trade
Terry L. Maris, Center for Cuban Business Studies, Ohio Northern University
Cuba: The 25th Largest Food and Agricultural Export Market for the United States
William Messina, University of Florida,
Economic Impact of U.S Agricultural Exports to Cuba Using an Applied General Equilibrium Model
Mike O’Connell, University of Florida,
Discussants: Stephen Kimmerling; Brian Alexander; Gary Maybarduk

Economic Reform in Russia: Lessons for Cuba
Egor Gaydar, former Prime Minister, Russian Federation

Economic and Social Evaluation of U.S. Foreign Policy Towards Cuba: Impacts and Alternatives I
The Valuable and Elusive Cultural Component in the Engagement with Cuba
Soren Triff
Ir o no ir, esa no es la cuestión
Eudel Cepero
U.S. Policy Toward Cuba: Will We Get it Right Finally?
Alberto Luzárraga
La actual política exterior de EUA respecto a Cuba: Evaluación y perspectivas
René Monserrat
Discussant: Jorge Sanguinetty

Transition Issues
Route Out of Socialism as Path-Dependent Process: Central-Eastern Europe’s Experiences and Lessons for Cuba
Ryszard Zukowski, Universidad de las Américas, Mexico
Main Lessons Learned from the Transition to a Market Economy in Latin America, Europe and Asia over the Last 15 Years
Rolando Castañeda
Courts of Special Jurisdiction in a Post-Transition Cuba
Matías Travieso-Díaz and Armando Musa
Discussants: Jennifer Gauck, Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative, American Bar Association; Alfie Ulloa, Harvard University; Gustavo Arnavat, Hunton & Williams

Economic and Social Evaluation of U.S. Foreign Policy Towards Cuba: Impacts and Alternatives II
USAID’s Cuba Program: NGOs and Their Role in Cuba’s Transition to Democracy
Felipe Sixto
Implicaciones de la política de Estados Unidos para una transición de Cuba hacia una economía más dinámica
Rolando Castañeda
Which Transition? A Contrarian Perspective on Post-Castro Cuba
Ed Canler
The Report of the Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba: Big Book, Good Advice?
Juan Tomás Sánchez
Discussant: Ricardo Puerta
Informal Sector

Survival Strategies and Economic ‘Illegalities’ in Cuba
Archibald Ritter, Carleton University

Informal Sector or Second Economy?: Comparative Theoretical Approaches to Cuba’s Underground Economy
Ted Henken, Baruch College

Fidel Castro’s Net Worth: Conjectures and Approximations
María Werlau, Orbis International

Discussants: Ernesto Hernández-Catá; Katherine Hirschfeld, Oklahoma University

External Sector Issues

Remittances to Cuba: A Survey of Methods and Estimates
Sergio Díaz-Briquets and Jorge Pérez-López

Cuba, China, and Venezuela: New Developments in 2005
Daniel Erikson, Inter-American Dialogue

Assimilation or Transnationalism? Conceptual Models of the Immigrant Experience
Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan

Discussants: Ernesto Betancourt; Juan Carlos Espinosa, Miami Dade College

Student Papers

Demystifying a Bilateral Relationship: Rise and Fall of the Mexican-Cuban Political Understanding
Enrique Romero, El Colegio de Mexico

Socialist Citizens and Capitalist Criminals
G. Derrick Hodge, CUNY Graduate Center

Discussants: Joseph Scarpaci, Virginia Tech; Ted Henken, Baruch College

Agriculture

Cuba: Food Processing with an Emphasis on Oilseeds and Soy Food
James Ross, J.E. Ross & Associates, and María Antonia Fernández Mayo,

Historical Overview of Cuba’s Costs of Sugar Production
G.B. Hagelberg and José Alvarez

Discussant: Larry Daley, Oregon State University

Intercambio Económico y Social entre Cuba y Venezuela

La alianza cubano-venezolana: Algunos beneficios para el regimen castrista
Hernán Yanes

Las relaciones económicas entre Cuba y Venezuela, con énfasis sobre el sector energético
Gustavo Coronel

La geopolítica del petróleo
Beatrice Rangel