ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY
OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)

Seventeenth Annual Meeting
The Radisson Miami Hotel, Miami, Florida
August 2–4, 2007

Conference Program

Current Economic and Political Situation
Armando Linde, ASCE President
Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh
Oscar Espinosa Chepe, Independent Economist, La Habana
Juan del Aguila, Emory University

Transition Experiences: Conclusions to Draw, Paths to Follow, Pitfalls to Avoid
Lessons for Cuba of the Eastern European Transitions
Ricardo Lago, Florida International University
Rolando H. Castañeda and Geni Gómez
From Dead Ends and Blind Corners to Open Highways: Traveling Down the Road to Cuban Economic
Liberalization
Armando Linde, IMF
Price Liberalization and the End of the Rationing System in Cuba
Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Johns Hopkins University
Discussants: Gary Maybarduk; Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America

Infrastructure Reform in Cuba: Lessons Learned from Transition and Developing Countries
Reforming the Ports
Teo Babún
Reforming the Power, Telecommunications and Water Systems
Juan Belt, USAID
Improving the Highway and Road System
Jacob Greenstein and Carlos Penin
Discussant: Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland
Labor Issues
Los derechos laborales en Cuba
Jesus Mercader, Universidad Carlos III, Madrid
Estado actual de los Sindicatos Independientes en Cuba y su papel en la transición en Cuba
Joel Brito
Actualización y ampliación de los Principios Arcos y la inversión extranjera en Cuba
Rolando Castañeda y Plinio Montalván
Discussant: Efrén Córdova

Agriculture
Cuba’s Dysfunctional Agriculture: Challenges Facing the Government
Jerry Hagelberg and José Alvarez, University of Florida
American Colonists and the Development of the Cuban Citrus Industry, 1899–1930
Carmen Diana Deere, University of Florida
John Reeder, U.S. International Trade Commission
Discussants: James E. Ross, James E. Ross & Associates; Mary Speck, WorldPublicOpinion; William Messina, University of Florida

Transition Strategies from the Island: Commentary on Itinerario de Reflexión Económica para Cuba
Gerardo Martínez-Solanas
Jorge Sanguinetti, DevTech Systems
Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh
Rolando Castañeda
Ted Henken, Baruch College, CUNY

Ethanol: Prospects and Challenges
Cuba and Ethanol: Projections for a Private Economy
Juan Tomás Sánchez
El programa brasileño de etanol: Lecciones para Cuba
Jorge Hernández Fonseca, Universidad do Estado do Pará, Brasil
Food versus Fuel: A False Cuban Dilemma
Antonio Gayoso, Thunderbird University
Discussant: James Peeples, NewGen Biofuels, Inc.

Análisis Estratégico de un Escenario de Transición: Pacto de Paz y Prosperidad—Panel Sociopolítico
Two Transitions
Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan
Getting There from Here: Six Decades after Cuba’s Last Democratic Elections for President
Marifeli Pérez-Stable, Inter-American Dialogue
Taliban in Tallahassee: Neocom in Havana
Alejandro Armengol, El Nuevo Herald,
Beyond the Battle of Ideas
Mauricio Font, Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies, CUNY
Governance and Institutional Inertia
Alfie Ulloa, Harvard University
Unusual Suspects: Commonly Forgotten Elements in Planning for Transition in Cuba
   María Werlau, Orbis International
   Discussants: Armando de Armas; Dan Erickson, Inter-American Dialogue

Legal Issues I
   ¿Qué debe incluir una Constitución?
   Alberto Luzárraga
   Land Title Registration in Cuba: Past, Present, and Future
   José Manuel Palli, World Wide Title
   Intellectual Property Rights Issues
   Jay Sanchelima, Esq.
   Discussant: Stephen Kimmerling, Esq.

Transition Issues
   A Six Sigma Analysis of a Cuban Transition
   Jorge Luis Romeu, Syracuse University
   Cuba at the Crossroads: Environmental Management in Transition
   Terry Maris, Ohio Northern University
   Suburbanizing Havana and Sofia: Comparisons of Post-socialist Peri-urban Change
   Sonia Hirr and Joseph L. Scarpaci, Virginia Tech
   Discussants: Alfred Cuzán, University of West Florida; Ed Canler; Ted Henken, Baruch College, CUNY

Análisis Estratégico de un Escenario de Transición: Pacto de Paz y Prosperidad—Panel de Economía Política
   Investment Funds for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
   Carlos Saladrigas, Cuba Study Group
   Policies to Attract Remittances in the Dominican Republic: Impact and Lessons for Cuba
   Mario González-Corzo and Scott Larson, Lehman College, CUNY
   Key Strategic Aspects of Cuba's Reinsertion into the Global Economy
   Geni Gomez, FreddieMac
   Cuba: How to Achieve High and Sustainable Growth for Employment Generation
   Rolando Castañeda
   Discussants: Ricardo Puerta; Dan Erickson, Inter-American Dialogue; Alfie Ulloa, Harvard University

Legal Issues II
   International Commercial Arbitration in Transition-Era Cuba: Outlook and Analysis
   Aldo Leiva, Abadin Cook
   Restitución de propiedades en Cuba: Consideraciones legales, políticas y prácticas
   Pedro Freyre, Akerman Senterfitt
   Discussant: José Gabilondo, College of Law, FIU

El Síndrome del Pesimismo post-Totalitario y la Recuperación de la Esperanza
   Carlos Alberto Montaner, Author and Syndicated Columnist

Economic Topics
   Human Rights and Economic Growth: Implications for a Cuban Transition
   Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland
   Cuban Monetary Reforms and Their Relationship to Policies to Attract and Increase Remittances
   Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College
Possible Scenarios in the Cuban Transition to Market Economy
Antonio E. Morales-Pita, DePaul University

ASCE’s Contribution to the Study of Cuban Agriculture: Implications for the Transition
José Alvarez, University of Florida

Discussants: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF; Ed Canler.

Student Papers
FAR from Perfect: The Cuban Military and the Potential for State-Corporatism in Post Communist Cuba
Brenden Carbonell, Yale University

Making Sense of Dissidence and Repression in Cuba: A Game Theoretic Analysis
Matthew Craig, University of North Carolina

Discussants: Ted Henken, Baruch College, CUNY; José Alvarez, University of Florida

Special Topics
Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente en el Futuro de Cuba
Raul Fernandez

Cuba and Illegal Operations: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
Silvia Nilsen

Politics and Metaphysics in Cuba: A Socioeconomic Approach
Pedro Pellet and Antonio Fernandez

Discussants: Maria Werlau, Jorge Perez-Lopez; Eudel Cepero.

Diaspora Issues
Policies to Attract Remittances in the Dominican Republic: Impact and Lessons for Cuba
Mario A. Gonzalez-Corzo, Lehman College, and Scott Larson, City University of New York

The Diaspora as a Commercial Network for Cuban Reconstruction
Jorge Perez-Lopez

Interactions between the Island and the Diaspora
Sergio Diaz-Briquets

Discussant: Ricardo Puerta

Politics and International Relations
The Politics of Framing
Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America

Cuba under Fidel and Raul
Rogelio de la Torre

El programa Barrio Adentro y el financiamiento de la Salud Publica en Venezuela
Jose Felix Oletta

U.S.-Cuba Security Relations
Dan Erikson, InterAmerican Dialogue,

Discussant: Juan del Aguila, Emory University

Lessons from the Baltic
Privatization through Restitution in the Baltic States
Viktor Trasberg, Centre for Baltic Studies, Tartu University

Issues and Problems with Migration of Communist-run Infrastructures and Societies to a Democratic Market-Oriented Society
Ints Dzelzgalvis, former IBM Senior Manager,
The Presence of the Past in the Baltic: Descendants of WWII Refugees’ ‘Return’ to their Latvian and Estonian Homelands
Delaney Skerrett, Tartu University

Investing in the Baltic
Tania C. Mastrapa, Mastrapa Consultants
Discussant: Nick Gutierrez, Jr., Esq., Borgognoni & Gutierrez, LLP

Havana and its Landscape
Nicolás Quintana
Eudel Cepero
Jorge Sanguinetty
Juan Belt