

Date of draft--July 4, 2016

**Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy
Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting
July 28-30, 2016**

**Cuba: Assessing the Reforms
Draft Program--Subject to Change**

Thursday, July 28

REGISTRATION

Plenary

1) Current Economic and Political Situation

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, ASCE President (confirmed)
Joaquín Pujol (confirmed)
Omar Everlenny Pérez Villanueva (confirmed)
Frank Mora, Florida International University (invited)

COFFEE BREAK

Plenary

2) Macroeconomic Topics

Chair: Carlos Quijano
Roberto Orro, Universidad de Puerto Rico, "Cuban Monetary Unification: Zeroing in on Why There Has Been Zero Day Zero in Cuba"
Heidi Colby-Oizumi, U.S. International Trade Commission, "Overview of Cuban Imports of Goods and Services and Effects of U.S. Restrictions"
Pavel Vidal Alejandro, Universidad Javeriana, and Ernesto Hernández-Catá, IMF (retired), "The Rise and Fall of Economic Growth in Cuba, 2015-16: External Factors, Business Confidence, and Domestic Policies"
Discussants: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired); Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired)

LUNCH BREAK

Concurrent Sessions

3) Agriculture

Chair: Felipe Manteiga, USAID (retired)
Andy Luis Hernández Martín, "La producción del frijol en una finca del municipio Cabaiguán"
Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, The City University of New York, "Urban Agriculture in Cuba: An Update"
Jorge Pérez-López, U.S. Department of Labor (retired), "The Cuban Sugar Agroindustry a Decade After Restructuring"
Discussants: José Alonso, Adjunct Professor, Montgomery College Adult Education

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4) Legal Issues

Chair: Stephen Kimmerling, Esq.

Dagoberto Valdés, Centro de Estudios Convivencia (CEC), "Un nuevo marco jurídico y tránsito constitucional en Cuba"

José Gabilondo, Florida International University College of Law, "Fundamentando las Reclamaciones de Cuba contra los EEUU: La Expropiación De Facto de la Propiedad Estatal de los Cubanos"

Michael J. Strauss, Centre d'Etudes Diplomatiques et Stratégiques (Paris, France), "Returning Guantanamo Bay to Cuban Control"

Discussants: Rolando Anillo, Esq.; Luis Carlos Battista, Georgetown Law School (invited)

COFFEE BREAK

Concurrent Sessions

5) La justicia transicional y la anhelada reconciliación nacional cubana

Presidente: TBA

Fredo Arias, experto en países del ex bloque soviético (Invitado), " Lecciones de justicia transicional de países del antiguo bloque comunista soviético"

Enrique García, ex oficial de la inteligencia cubana, "Transformando el aparato de seguridad cubano: retos y realidades"

Pastor Mario Félix Leonart, pastor bautista, miembro de la Comisión Coordinadora del Encuentro Nacional Cubano y bloguero, "La anhelada reconciliación nacional: retos, realidades y esperanzas"

Maria Werlau, Directora Ejecutiva de Archivo Cuba, Proyecto de Verdad y Memoria.

"La justicia transicional en un contexto universal: aprendizaje para Cuba"

Comentaristas: Vicente Botín, periodista y autor español; Nilda Pedraza, madre de joven asesinado en 1994 por Tropas Guardafronteras de Cuba (Invitada)

6) Cuba's Infrastructure in Support of Economic Development

Chair: René Costales, IDB (retired)

Josef Asteinza, Producer and Writer of the documentary film *Havana Modern: The Architecture of Nicolás Quintana*; and Vivian García, University of Miami, "Mapping Cuba's 20th Century Architecture "

Diana Arboleda, Francisco DeCaso and Antonio Nanni, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering, University of Miami, "Historic Infrastructure Rehabilitation with Fabric Reinforced Cementitious Matrix (FRCM) Composites"

Enrique S. Pumar, The Catholic University of America; Helena M. Solo-Gabriele, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering, University of Miami; Joseph B. Treaster, School of Communications, University of Miami, "Perceptions of Water Quality in Cuba as Reported by Users: Preliminary Findings of the Cuban Water Project"

Wangda Zuo, College of Engineering, University of Miami; Raymond Kaiser, Amzur Technologies; and Stephen Welty, Calor Technologies, "Envisioning a 21st Century Renewable, Reliable, Resilient and Affordable Energy Infrastructure for Cuba"

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ASCE RECEPTION

Friday, July 29

REGISTRATION

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

7) Cuba's Self-Imposed Embargo

Chair: Oscar Echevarría

Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group, "Gobierno cubano, ¿congela o descongela los límites del sector privado en la era del deshielo?"

Jorge A. Sanguinety, DevTech Systems, "Implications of Cuba's Foreign Investment Law in the Context of 2016"

Juan Antonio Blanco, Director Ejecutivo, Foundation for Human Rights in Cuba (FHRC), "Tres mitos referidos al embargo"

Discussants: Carlos Seiglie

8) Student Panel

Chair: Enrique Pumar, The Catholic University of America

Presenters TBA

Discussants TBA

COFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9) Demography

Chair: Nick Sánchez, College of the Holy Cross (retired)

Luis Locay, University of Miami, "Why did the Cuban infant mortality rate rise during the first decade of the Revolution?"

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, "Population Aging in Cuba: Policy Options from a Global Perspective"

Discussants: Rodolfo Stusser, MD

10) Cuban Economic Reforms and Party Congresses

Chair: Rogelio de la Torre

Osmar Laffita Rojas, "Los problemas de la economía no resueltos por el VI Congreso"

Larry Catá Backer, Penn State University, "Central Planning Versus Markets Marxism: The Cuban Communist Party Confronts Crisis, Challenge and Change in its 7th Congress"

Domingo Amuchástegui, "A Nation's Debate: What to Expect"

Gary Maybarduk, "Cuba's Seventh Party Congress: Listening Carefully to Raúl"

Discussants: Jorge Pérez-López, Ted Henken

ASCE LUNCHEON

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CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11) Impacts of Structural Economic Reforms

Chair: Lorenzo Pérez (IMF--retired)

José Gabilondo, Florida International University College of Law, "Assessing Cuba's monetary reforms: what will happen to state balance sheets?"

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, IMF (retired), "Growth and Policy-Induced Distortions in the Cuban Economy"

Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland, "USA-Cuba Migration Policy: A Political Economy View"

Discussants: Carlos Seiglie; Jorge Sanguinety (Roger)

12) International Relations

Chair: Oscar Echevarría

Carlos A. Romero, Universidad Central de Venezuela, "Business as Usual: Venezuelan-Cuban Relations Today"

Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, "The Impossible Triangle: Cuba, the US, and Miami and the Re-establishment of Relations"

Jorge Hernandez Fonseca, Dr. Ing., "Cuba, Brasil y el puerto de Mariel"

Miriam Leiva, "Cuba: Movimiento o Caos"

Discussants: Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems; Maria Werlau

COFFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

13) Tourism

Chair: María Dolores Espino, St. Thomas University

Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems; Trevor Alleyne and Sebastian Acevedo, IMF, "The Vacation is Over, 2016"

Fred Viera, Esq., Trembly Law Firm, "The State of the U.S. Constitutional Right to International Travel and its Potential Impact on Cuba's Informal Economy"

Perelló (need title of his paper)

Discussants: Julio Cerviño Fernández, Universidad Carlos III (Spain)

14) Private Sector

Chair: Ramón Carlos Barquín, Barquín International

Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva and Janette García Cobas, "El desarrollo de las pequeñas y medianas empresas en Cuba: Una necesidad impostergable"

Gilberto Valladares (Papito) and Camilo Condis Mojena, "El proyecto Artecorte: Un proyecto comunitario de desarrollo local en la Cuba actual"

Mayra Rivero Loo, "El Programa de Desarrollo Sostenible del Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba contribuyendo al Desarrollo Comunitario cubano"

Ramón Bedías, "Patio de Ramoncito"

BUSINESS MEETING

Date of draft--July 4, 2016

Saturday, July 30

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

15) Authors Meet Critics

Chair: Enrique Pumar, The Catholic University of America

Authors: Archibald R.M. Ritter, Carleton University and Ted A. Henken, Baruch College, *Entrepreneurial Cuba: The Changing Policy Landscape*

Critic: Sergio Díaz-Briquets,

Author: Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, *Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus*

Critic: Enrique Pumar, The Catholic University of America

Authors: Carmelo Mesa-Lago and Jorge Pérez-López, *Cuba Under Raúl Castro: Assessing the Reforms*

Critic: Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, The City University of New York

16) Historical and Cultural Perspectives

Chair: Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland

Luis Martínez-Fernández, University of Central Florida, "Centuries-Deep Roots: Early Colonial Foundations of Twentieth-Century Cuban Society and Culture"

Yvon Grenier, St. Francis Xavier University, "*Temas* and Anathemas: Depoliticization and Newspeak in Cuba's Social Sciences and Humanities"

Soren Triff, Bristol Community College, "The Other Racism: The Role of the Revolutionary Discourse in Cuban Identity Economics"

Discussants: René Costales, IDB, retired

COFFEE BREAK

17) Development Strategies and Results

Chair: Jorge Sanguinety, DevTech Systems

Eduardo López Bastida, Universidad de Cienfuegos, "Algunas consideraciones sobre ciencia, tecnología, innovación tecnológica y medio ambiente para desarrollo próspero y sostenible cubano"

Dagoberto Valdés, Centro de Estudios Convivencia (CEC), "Propuestas para reformas de la economía cubana"

Mauricio Font, City University of New York, "Spatial Differentiation: Oriente v. Occidente"

Osmany Sánchez, title TBA

Discussants: Antonio Gayoso, USAID (retired)

18) Cuba and the Internet

Chair: Ted Henken, Baruch College

Salvi Pascual, Apretaste.com, "Using the current tech and infrastructure to connect Cuba to the Web"

Larry Press, "Will Cuba Modernize its Internet?"

Lázaro J. Blanco Encinosa, Centro de Estudios de Técnicas de Dirección, Universidad de La

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Habana, "Internet y las tecnologías de la información y las comunicaciones en el sector empresarial cubano. Actualidad, perspectivas y retos"

Celia Mendoza and Robin Pedraja, Vistar, "Alternativas entre la conexión y la desconexión"

Yailenis Mulet Concepción, "El trabajo por cuenta propia después de las reformas de Raúl Castro: Un balance"