



ASCE Newsletter

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY

Issue Date:
January 7, 2018

Highlights

President's Letter	PAGE 1
Committee Updates	PAGE 2
Upcoming Events	PAGE 3
2018 ASCE Conference	PAGE 4
Conference Highlights	PAGE 5
ASCE Accomplishments	PAGE 7
Call for Membership	PAGE 8

Board of Directors

President

Helena Solo-Gabriele

President ex-officio

Carlos Seiglie

Treasurer:

Ernesto Hernández-Catá

Assistant Treasurer

Andy Wolfe

Secretary

Gary Maybarduk

At Large Board Members

Sergio Díaz-Briquets

Larry Catá Backer

Roger de la Torre

Antonio Gayoso

Stephen Kimmerling

Gary Maybarduk

Roberto Orro Fernández

Jorge Luis Romeu

Rafael Romeu

Michael Strauss

Opening Letter

By Helena Solo-Gabriele, ASCE President, and Roger de La Torre, Newsletter Editors

Dear ASCE Members,

The ASCE Board is busy planning two major sets of events for 2018. The first is a new webinar series scheduled to begin this coming January 2018 with our inaugural speaker of Dr. Camelo Mesa-Lago, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. He will be providing a presentation on January 17, 2018. Additional presentations are scheduled for March (Dr. Rafael Romeu, President and CEO of DevTech Systems, Inc.) and May 2018 (Larry Catá Backer, Professor of Law and International Affairs at Penn State Law). More details about the webinar series are included on page 3 of this newsletter and also at the following URL (www.ascecuba.org/additional-asce-events/2018-webinar-series/). We are enthusiastic about this initiative as a way of providing educational programs for our members throughout the year.

Our second major event, is the flagship event of ASCE, it's annual conference. This year ASCE will be hosting its 28th Annual Conference at the Hilton Downtown Miami Hotel on July 26 to 28, 2018. To register for the conference please visit <https://www.ascecuba.org/conferences/2018-asce-conference/>. For the annual conference, we have re-initiated fund-raising efforts to provide financial support for the students competing in the student paper competition and for Cuban scholars living within Cuba who can enrich scholarly discussions about Cuba's economic issues. In addition to soliciting funds from U.S. Foundations we also ask our membership and those interested in supporting the ASCE meeting to contact us at asce@ascecuba.org in the event that you are able to provide financial support for student or Cuban Scholar travel to the conference.

We look forward to corresponding with you this year and hope that you are able to take part in new webinar series and in the 2018 Annual Conference.

ASCE

Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy

<http://www.ascecuba.org/>
asce@ascecuba.org

ASCE Newsletter Submissions

Newsletter submissions, comments, and letters to the editor may be sent to: Roger de la Torre
r.delatorre@earthlink.net

Letters to the president may be sent to: Helena Solo-Gabriele
hmsolo@miami.edu

Please send email, telephone, and address changes to:
Ernesto Hernández-Catá
ehernandezcata@gmail.com

Committees leads

Conference Program: *Jorge Pérez-López*

Conference Logistics: *Rafael Romeu*

Student Paper Prize: *Enrique Pumar*

Conference Hosting : *Ted Henken*

Virtual Session: *Michael Strauss*

Membership Committee: *Michael Strauss*

Website Committee: *Ernesto Hernández-Catá*

ASCE Newsclippings: *Joaquín P. Pujol*

ASCE Blog: *Luis R. Luis and Ernesto Hernandez-Cata*

Webinar: *Jorge Luis Romau*

Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture: *Carlos Seiglie*

AEA Session Coordinator: *Luis Locay*

Election Nominations: *Roger Betancourt*

Election Teller: *Steve Escobar*

Need to Renew your Membership?

Go to

<http://www.ascecuba.org/>

On the "Membership" tab click "Membership Annual Dues"

Updates from ASCE Committees

Conference Proceedings and Program Committee—Jorge Pérez-López

The 2017 Conference Proceedings have been posted at:
www.ascecuba.org/publications/annual-proceedings/

Program Committee—Jorge Pérez-López

The Program Committee is accepting abstracts for possible presentation at the conference. Deadline for abstract submission is May 22, 2018. Details at:
<https://www.ascecuba.org/conferences/2018-asce-conference/2018-asce-conference-abstract-submission/>

Conference Logistics Committee—Rafael Romeu

The conference logistics committee has determined the dates and venue for the 2018 conference. Please SAVE-THE-DATE of July 26-28, 2017 for the 28th Annual ASCE meeting at the Hilton Downtown Miami Hotel. Hotel reservations can be made at: www.ascecuba.org/conferences/2018-asce-conference/. One major addition to this year's conference is the integration of the Carlos

Student Papers Prize—Enrique Pumar

ASCE Student Award Committee is accepting papers for the 2018 Jorge Pérez-López Student Award Competition. The award committee welcomes papers from undergraduate and graduate students from all over the world including Cuba and from all disciplines, not just economics. The top papers will receive travel stipends towards their participation at the conference. Deadline for student papers is May 20, 2018. Contact Enrique Pumar, committee chair, at epumar@scu.edu. For more information about the award stipend and expectations, consult the ASCE webpage at:
www.ascecuba.org/competition/2018-competition/

Conference Hosting Committee—Ted Henken

ASCE strives to promote scholarly discussion on the Cuban economy. To this end we invite speakers from inside and outside Cuba to engage in discussions focused on the Cuban Economy. Many of the economists within Cuba need funding in order to participate. One of main initiatives of this committee is to fund-raise which is a large challenge for us. Given the funds we raise, the committee then provides recommendations for potential invitees from Cuba who can share their points of view on the status and future directions of the Cuban economy. If you have fund-raising ideas, please contact Ted Henken at: asce@ascecuba.org.

Virtual Session—Michael Strauss

This year as part of the Annual Conference, ASCE will be hosting a student virtual session in collaboration with Pepperdine University. We are currently soliciting abstracts from student members. To become a member of ASCE, please visit: www.ascecuba.org/membership/apply-now/. Abstract deadline is May 20, 2018. More details are provided on page 4 of this newsletter.

Newsclippings—Joaquín P. Pujol

News related to Cuba's economy that usually are not carried in mainstream media is selected. Clips are forwarded to members' e-mails about weekly. This facilitates the availability of information. So as an ASCE member, you will be well informed of relevant economic trends and events in relation to Cuba's economic reforms, international relations, economic performance, the sugar crop, tourism, corruption among other issues. This service has been established as an additional benefit exclusively for those members who provide us with their e-mail addresses.

ASCE Blog—Luis R. Luis

The ASCE blog presents brief articles on the Cuban economy and society. The posts provide original commentary and analysis on topics relevant to gauging social and economic trends in the Cuba. Articles of an analytical nature by members and friends of ASCE are welcome and can be sent to asce@ascecuba.org in care of the editors. For examples, visit www.ascecuba.org/blog/.

Webinar—Jorge Luis Romeu

A new webinar series has been initiated for 2018 and will start on January 17, 2018 with a presentation by Dr. Carmelo Mesa Lago. Two additional webinars are scheduled to follow in March and June 2018. More information about Dr. Mesa Lago's presentation is available at: URL.

Elections—Roger Betancourt

2018 is an election year for ASCE. The organization is soliciting nominations for new Board members. Please send nominations to Betancou@econ.umd.edu by February 1, 2018.

ASCE

Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy



Twitter at @ASCECuba

Facebook at www.facebook.com/ascecuba.org

ASCE Events



AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

ASCE will be hosting a session entitled, **“The Cuban Economy”**, during the 2018 American Economic Association Annual meeting on January 5, 2018 in Philadelphia, PA. The session will be chaired by Carlos Seiglie of Rutgers University. Roger Betancourt of the University of Maryland is scheduled to present a paper entitled, “Cuba’s Normalization Policy in a Trump Administration: Political Economy Perspectives.” Additional presenters include Kislaya Prasad of the University of Maryland whose paper is entitled, “Organization and Performance of Cuba’s Worker Managed

Cooperatives.” John Devereux, of the City University of New York, and Luis Locay, of the University of Miami, will be presenting a paper entitled, “Comparing the Quality of Education in Pre- and Post- Revolutionary Cuba Using United States Labor Market Outcomes.” Discussants include John Devereux, and Bryan Roberts of the Institute for Defense Analyses. Copies of the session abstracts and papers are available at: www.aeaweb.org/conference/2018/preliminary (search on keyword “Cuba”).

NEW ASCE Webinar Series



ASCE will be hosting its first inaugural webinar entitled, **“Social Welfare in Cuba”** on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 from 12 noon to 1 pm eastern time. The speaker will be Dr. Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies University of Pittsburgh. The presentation will focus on describing the demographics of Cuba’s population, employment rates, wages, and income inequality. For audio use the following call in number: 1-641-715-3836, participation code: 844 000. Presentation slides are posted at: www.ascecuba.org/additional-asce-events/2018-webinar-series/. Question and answers will be moderated by Dr. Jorge Luis Romeu who will be accepting questions via email at romeuj@sunyt.edu.



ASCE’s second webinar of the 2018 series will be presented by Dr. Rafael Romeu, President and CEO of DevTech Systems, Inc., (DevTech). This presentation will take place on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 from 12 noon to 1 pm eastern time. His presentation is entitled, **“Currency Unification and Exchange Rate Policy in Cuba: Lessons from Exchange Rate Unification in Transition”** will describe the inherent difficulties associated with distribution of losses and gains that would result from currency unification. The audio number, URL for presentation slides, and the format of submitting questions are the same as for the first webinar of this series.



The third and final webinar of the 2018 series will be presented by Larry Catá Backer, J.D., Professor of Law and International Affairs at Penn State Law. This presentation will take place on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 (12 noon to 1 pm eastern). His presentation entitled, **“Foreign Investment in Cuba: Law, Policy, and Practicalities”** will provide a detailed description of Cuban law relevant to foreign investment, bilateral and other agreements with Cuba, transaction formation pitfalls and best practices, and how to steer clear of liability and policy traps. See URL under the first webinar of this series for details.

Additional Events

ASCE is open to hosting sessions and sponsoring other events. If you have ideas for additional events please contact Helena Solo-Gabriele (hmsolo@miami.edu) so she can then present before the ASCE Board.



The Bilner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies is sponsoring a presentation by Herman Portocarero, former ambassador to Cuba from the European Union and Belgium. His presentation entitled, “Havana...Havana!”, examines all things Cuban—racial issues, la revolución, baseball, and more. For more information visit www.gc.cuny.edu/Page-Elements/Academics-Research-Centers-Initiatives/Centers-and-Institutes/Bilner-Center-for-Western-Hemisphere-Studies/Center-Events



The Florida International University, Cuban Research Institute has numerous activities planned for 2018. For more information, visit the CRI web site at: <https://cri.fiu.edu/events/>

Cuban Research Institute



The Association of Cuban-American Engineers and the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers will be hosting their **2018 Cuba Infrastructure Scholarship Competition** on Saturday, March 3, 2018 in Coral Gables, Florida. During the competition university-level student teams formulate and present a project of their choice on the reconstruction of Cuba’s public infrastructure that relates to the engineering field in transportation, water resources, power, telecommunications, healthcare or agriculture. Any questions regarding the competition guidelines should be directed to the Chair of the CISC Committee by contacting Regina Rodriguez (reggie17r@gmail.com).

2018 ASCE Conference—SAVE-THE-DATE



The three-day conference, around the theme “After Raul?,” will focus on evaluating the state of the Cuban economy taking into consideration the pending leadership changes. Raúl Castro is the head of the Communist party, the lead Minister of Defense, and the head of the Council of State. He has announced his planned retirement from one of these positions, the Council of State. One key issue remains after Raúl Castro’s retirement from this position: whether his successor in this position will implement the economic reforms needed to stimulate the private sector and attract foreign investment to spur economic growth.

Call for Abstracts/Papers/Panels

There are three ways to submit an abstract or paper to the 2018 ASCE Conference:

- #1) For Professional Sessions (details at: www.ascecuba.org/conferences/2018-asce-conference/2018-asce-conference-abstract-submission/)

Abstracts, papers, and/or panel proposals should describe original work related to the economy of Cuba in a broad sense, including legal, sectoral, and social aspects of economic development. Abstracts must not exceed 250 words and must be accompanied by a 150 word biography for each author. Abstracts and biographies are to be sent via email to asce@ascecuba.org. For email submission include the words “ASCE CONFERENCE ABSTRACT - PROFESSIONAL” in the subject line. Authors of accepted papers will be required to register for the annual conference. Abstract submission deadline is May 22, 2018.

- #2) For The 2018 Jorge Pérez-López, Graduate and Undergraduate Student Award Competition (details at: <https://www.ascecuba.org/competition/2018-competition/>)

Full papers are now being accepted by the ASCE Student Award Committee for the 2018 Jorge Pérez-López Student Award Competition. A panel of scholars will judge all submissions on the basis of relevance, originality, quality, contribution, and clarity of presentation. Papers should not be co-authored with an instructor or teaching assistant. At a minimum, all papers must outline a thesis statement, present evidence or data supporting it, not exceed 5,000 words double-spaced length, and follow one of the standard academic writing and citations styles. Graduate paper awards include a prize (\$600 first place and \$150 second place) plus an allowance for travel to the ASCE conference. Undergraduate paper awards include a prize (\$400 first place and \$100 second place) plus a travel allowance for the ASCE conference. Full papers are to be sent via email to both asce@ascecuba.org and epumar@scu.edu. For email submission include the words “ASCE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION” in the subject line. Abstract deadline is May 20, 2018.

- #3) For the Student Virtual Session (details at: www.ascecuba.org/conferences/2018-asce-conference/2018-asce-conference-virtual-session/)

Abstracts are being accepted by the ASCE Virtual Session Committee in collaboration with Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology’s Scholarship without Borders. The virtual sessions will be administered through pre-recorded presentations released during the conference with a live question and answer period following the pre-recorded presentations. Participation will be virtual so physical attendance at the conference is not required. To be considered, students must be members of ASCE. To become a member of ASCE, please visit: www.ascecuba.org/membership/apply-now/. A panel of scholars will review the abstracts on the basis of relevance, originality, quality, contribution, and clarity of presentation. Abstracts must not exceed 250 words and must be accompanied by a 150 word biography for each author. In your submission, please indicate: your contact information using a University e-mail address; your current institution and degree program; and expected graduation date. Submissions are to be sent via email to asce@ascecuba.org and m.strauss@wanadoo.fr. For email submission include the words “ASCE STUDENT VIRTUAL SESSION” in the subject line. Abstract deadline is May 20, 2018. Upon notification of abstract selection, students will be expected to provide a pre-recorded video of their presentation using MP4 compatible video software. Videos will be posted on the ASCE YouTube channel for viewing after the meeting.

Highlights from the 2017 Annual Conference

Conference Welcome Dinner

As a tradition the ASCE Board of Director hosts a welcome dinner the evening before the start of the conference. ASCE Board members, ASCE committee members and Cuban Scholars are invited to take part in this event for social and professional networking. This past year the event was held at the Habana Vieja restaurant located in Coral Gables, FL. For details about the Cuban scholars please see the ASCE annual report posted at www.ascecuba.org.

Photo on right: Dinner the evening before the ASCE Conference (July 26, 2017) with ASCE Board members, ASCE committee members, and scholars from Cuba.



Jorge Pérez-López Student Paper Competition

First prize winner in the undergraduate category, Anthony Bencivengo from Sarah Lawrence College presented on, “Sembrando la Sostenibilidad.” There was a tie for second place in the graduate category. These papers were presented by Julie Rausenberger of the University of Louvain (Belgium) whose paper was entitled, “Importing Modernity: Foreign Fashion and Identity-Making in Urban Cuba” and by Kate Gaffney of New York University whose paper was entitled, “The Destruction of Havana’s Neighborhoods: When Heritage Tourism Becomes a Priority Over Habitable Housing.”

Photo on left: Dr. Mario Gonzalez-Corzo presents student awards to Anthony Bencivengo, Julie Rausenberger, and Kate Gaffney.



Virtual Session

During 2017, for the first time, ASCE hosted a virtual session that targeted the participation of University students. Five presentations were authored by eight students from Pepperdine University in California, all of whom participated in an educational exchange program in Cuba under the guidance of Dr. Lani Frazier.

Photo on right: Michael Strauss, session chair, shown with Frank Carlos Martinez, committee member and technical facilitator. Session facilitators at Pepperdine University included Sonya Sharififard and Dr. Lani Frazier.



Conference Sessions

Conference sessions were held in either Spanish or English. Several sessions were enriched by the participation of scholars from Cuba who presented papers from the perspective of those who live on the island.

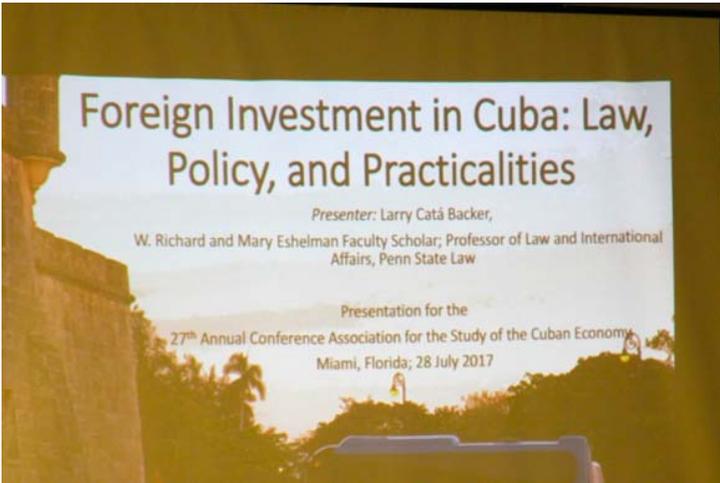
Upper left photo: Panel entitled, “La nueva economía cubana: casos de estudio” with invited Cuban scholars, Buenaventura Rubén Rigol Cardona, Beatriz Lima Lizama, René García Bello, and Eneida Díaz Díaz. Upper right photo: Chair of the panel, Ted Henken.

Highlights from the 2017 Annual Conference

Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address

This year the Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address was presented by Marc Frank, a highly regarded economic correspondent for Reuters based in Havana, Cuba and author of the acclaimed book, "Cuban Revelations: Behind the Scenes in Havana." His keynote presentation was entitled, "The Strategic Retreat: What's Driving and Slowing Change in Cuba and U.S.-Cuban Relations." The presentation reflected on the slow rate at which economic change is happening in Cuba. It described a vision of gradual improvements in the long term, in light of anticipated changes in the Cuban governmental leadership.

Photo on right: Marc Frank delivering his keynote presentation.



Legal Issues Sessions

For the first time in 2017, ASCE's Annual Conference included two CLE-qualifying law sessions organized by Stephen Kimmerling of Crowell & Moring LLP. Licensed attorneys who registered for the conference received 2 Florida Bar CLE credits for each of the sessions attended. These sessions focused on "Foreign Investment in Cuba: Law, Policy, and Practicalities" presented by Larry Catá Backer, Professor of Law and International Affairs, Penn State Law, and "Coordinating U.S. and Cuban Legal Principles to Resolve Property and Damage Claims" presented by Pedro A. Freyre, Partner, Chair, International Practice, Akerman LLP and Rolando Anillo, Corporate Counsel, Florida Crystals Corp., and President, Cuban Claims Owners Association.



Photos on left: Top, Larry Catá Backer lecturing on the topic, "Foreign Investment in Cuba: Law, Policy, and Practicalities." Bottom, Pedro Freyre and Rolando Anillo fielding questions on their sessions entitled, "Overview of the U.S. Embargo and Treatment of U.S. Claims in Relations to Cuba."

Meeting Sponsors

The ASCE Annual meeting is supported through conference registration fees, generous donations from ASCE members, and through the support of the Christopher Reynolds Foundation Inc. Funding through the Christopher Reynolds Foundation was used to support the Jorge Pérez-López Student Paper Competition and for the travel support for the participation of seven scholars from Cuba. We thank the Foundation and the ASCE contributing members, ASCE member sponsors, and ASCE benefactors.



ASCE's Accomplishments by Roger Betancourt

Over the last 27 years ASCE can claim a number of accomplishments directly tied to its mission. Indirect evidence of its success is its recognition as a source of useful information on the island by US government agencies that cite its publications. Success and recognition arise from the persistent efforts of our relatively small membership leading to the accomplishments detailed below.

First, and perhaps foremost, ASCE holds an annual conference every year in which papers relevant to the understanding of the Cuban economy in many of the broad aspects identified in its mission are presented. The conference program and the papers meeting editorial guidelines and deadlines for final versions are published in *Cuba in Transition*. These volumes are available several months after the conference, in print for a fee and online at www.ascecuba.org for free. Both the creation of the conference program and the editorial process take place under the supervision of a highly regarded Cuban scholar, Jorge Pérez-López. Currently there are 27 volumes. All those involved are volunteers!

Second, the association provides an email service (ASCE's Newsclippings) exclusively for members with news and analyses from a wide array of sources, including governmental and non-governmental ones on the island, on a frequent basis that is not necessarily weekly but a bit more often than biweekly. This service to our members was started in 2000 and has been handled by Joaquin Pujol as editor since 2007 and up to the present day. From inception to October 4th 2017 this service has provided 775 emails each with an attachment containing informational material. The attachment includes two worthwhile features. One is the inclusion of a very wide variety of sources reporting news on Cuba; the other is the inclusion of analyses which can be far lengthier than newspaper editorials besides the traditional news items. Additionally, news and analyses are also supported by the ASCE website blog which includes short postings edited by economists Luis R. Luis and Ernesto Hernández Catá. Those who would like to contribute to the blog should contact them at ehernandezcata@verizon.net.

Third, since 1992 every year ASCE has sponsored a session jointly with the annual American Economic Association Meetings as one of the Allied Social Science Associations. These sessions are currently organized by Luis Locay, a University of Miami economics professor and a regular attendee at the AEA annual meetings. At the forthcoming AEA meetings, ASCE is sponsoring a session that will take place from 8-10 AM on Friday January 5th 2018 at the Loews' Philadelphia Hotel (Parlor 2). There will be three papers presented, two discussants and a Chair, which is a typical arrangement. For additional session details see: www.aeaweb.org/conference/2018/preliminary.

Fourth, at our first meeting in 1991 one of our members, Freddie Sanchez, suggested a student prize to stimulate younger generations interest in the topic. This suggestion has been pursued vigorously and, currently, we have both undergraduate and graduate student prizes and awarded every year under the supervision of Enrique Pumar, a sociologist that taught at Catholic University for many years and recently moved to the University of Santa Clara in California. The awardees are invited to present their papers at a student session during our annual conference and the trips for them are financed by ASCE and from additional fundraising efforts.

Last but not least, we have sponsored an initially biannual Carlos Díaz Alejandro Lecture in honor of a very accomplished Cuban- American economist who died at an early age and was known to many of ASCE's founders. The aim of this lecture is to promote the professional visibility of the organization, attracting well known speakers who could also educate our membership on issues potentially relevant to the Cuban economy. This year the Carlos Díaz Alejandro Lecture has been moved to the ASCE Annual Meeting.

Suggestions Sought

Do you have something to share? ASCE Members are asked if they have published a book, an article, or op-eds that can be shared with the ASCE membership. We would be happy to include these accomplishments in the ASCE Newsletter and also in the ASCE website through its blog. Please send an email message to hmsolo@miami.edu if you would like to share accomplishments of interest with the general ASCE membership.

Have you written a book lately? Roger de la Torre is in the process of organizing a panel for the upcoming ASCE conference called, "Authors Meet Critics." During this panel book authors will present their work that relates to Cuban economic issues. If you are interested in serving on this panel, please contact Roger at r.delatorre@earthlink.net.

Member News. If you have news or information that you would like to share with ASCE Members, please contact us and we will find an appropriate means to disseminate.



Membership Drive

To become a member or update your membership
Visit: www.ascecuba.org, click “membership” on top banner

Enjoy updated and exclusive information on Cuba.
Access a select group of Cuba experts.
Learn & share information and ideas in a stimulating and collegial environment.
Network amongst talented and influential group of individuals.

Member Benefits

- Receive regular news and comprehensive information on Cuba via an *electronic clipping service exclusive to members*.
- Enjoy *reduced fees* for the annual conference and other ASCE events.
- Purchase the Annual Volume of *conference proceedings* for just \$35.
- Elect the President and 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: \$35

Membership is renewed annually and runs from January 1 to December 31.

New: Institutional memberships allow for reduced conference registration fees (\$175 first individual and \$87.⁵⁰ for each additional individual)

What is ASCE?

The **Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE)** is a non-profit, non-political organization incorporated in the state of Maryland in 1990. Our mission is to promote research, publications, and scholarly discussion on the Cuban economy in its broadest sense, including on the social, economic, legal, and environmental aspects of a transition to a free market economy and a democratic society in Cuba. ASCE is committed to a civil discussion of all points of view. Affiliated with the **American Economic Association** and the **Allied Social Sciences Association** of the United States, ASCE maintains professional contacts with economists inside Cuba —whether independent or associated with the Cuban government—who are interested in engaging in scholarly discussion and research.

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 Conference**, held in Miami, Florida each August: Specialists present papers and participate in roundtable discussions during the 2½ day conference.
- **Annual lecture & 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 issues of **Annual Papers and Proceedings** from all ASCE conferences.
- **Annual prize** for best papers on Cuba by university students.

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 also find By-laws, current Board of Directors, activities, and almost three decades of scholarly work on Cuba.