

## APPENDIX A

### About the Authors

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**Roger R. Betancourt** received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1970, joined the Faculty at Maryland in 1969 and became Emeritus Professor in 2007. His most prominent service contributions to the Maryland Economics Department were through Ph. dissertation advising (first recipient in Economics of the Mentorship Award from the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences in 2006). A Dissertation Fellowship in Applied Economics in his honor endowed by his former students was first awarded 2010–2011. His most prominent service contributions to ASCE are: one of its founders and

its First President, 1990–1992; continued participation in its committee activities to the present. His research contributions in Economics lie in three broad topic areas. With respect to production, a summary of his long term contributions is available in “Capital Utilization” [entry in S. Durlauf and L. Blume (eds.) *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*, 2nd edition, The Macmillan Press, 2008]. With respect to retailing and distribution, a recent overview of his contributions is available in “Distribution Services, Technological Change and the Evolution of Retailing in the Twenty-First Century” [Ch. 4 in E. Basker (editor), *Handbook on the Economics of Retailing and Distribution*, Edward Elgar Publishing, Ltd., 2016]. With respect to institutions and development, an illustration of his contributions is provided by “Unbundling Democracy: Political Rights and Civil Liberties” [(with A. BenYishay), *Journal of Comparative Economics*, August 2014]. With respect to applications of the new institutional economics to Cuba, his contributions are available in ASCE’s Papers and Proceedings [*Cuba in Transition*, Volumes 1–2, 7- 9, 11, 15, 17–20, 22–24, 26].

**Pablo Boorsma Mendoza** has a master’s degree in International Relations from Utrecht University and a master’s degree in Global & Colonial History from Leiden University, both in The Netherlands. After finishing an internship for the embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands in Cuba, he is currently looking for new challenges.

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**Hernán Cortés A.** has over 31 years' experience in the water and waste water industry with focus on Latin America. Hernán has vast experience in Sales, Project Management and Services. He has spent the last 10 years with Leopold, a xylem brand, in different positions: Engineering Manager, Global Project Manager, Latin American Region (LAR) Manager, and Sales Manager, being previously employed in main companies of the rubric. Currently, he is the Applications & Sales Sr. Engineer for LAR. He holds a BS in Mechanical Civil Engineering from the Universidad de Chile.

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**Julio Cesar Fariñas Pérez,** Licenciado en Economía, Universidad de La Habana, fue profesor en la Universidad Central Marta Abreu de Las Villas hasta su expulsión en mayo de 2017 por razones políticas. Es Director del Instituto Cubano de Economía Aplicada para una Transición Democrática, miembro del Consejo Científico de la Fundación de Estudios Políticos y de Alternativas para la Transición Democrática de Cuba y Director del Proyecto Emprende con Ciencia, apoyado por la ONG checa "People in Need" para facilitar conocimiento científicos al sector no estatal cubano, particularmente a los trabajadores por cuenta propia.

**Gabriel A. Ferrer** is a Cuban-American engineer, real estate developer, sport airplane builder and pilot who returned to Cuba after more than a 50 year absence. He now travels to Cuba on a regular basis to install water disinfection systems in Cuban churches and to help the Cuban Aviation Club start a flight school in the city of Varadero.

**John Geibel** is a Senior Product Engineer for Leopold, a xylem brand. John received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University in 1975. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania. John has been with the company for over 39 years and has had several product and engineering positions with Leopold relating to filtration and clarification products. He has been granted several patents related to filtration products. He is a member of the American Water Works Association and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

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**Nicolás Sánchez** (Ph.D. University of Southern California, 1972). He is currently Professor Emeritus, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA; and he resides in Ft Lauderdale, FL. His areas of expertise are property rights and economic development, but his more recent writings also involve economic history and politics—having served both in elective office and appointed town committees.

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**Soren Triff**, especialista en medios de comunicación y activista de la sociedad civil, enseña español y culturas hispánicas en Bristol Community College, Massachusetts, donde además dirige un programa de traductores e intérpretes. Su interés investigativo se encuentra en la intersección de los estudios culturales cognoscitivos (y las humanidades digitales) y la prosa argumentativa hispánica (ensayo-periodismo/documental filmico) de sociedades en conflicto. Triff ha sido distinguido como “extraordinary Latino educator” por el gobernador de Massachusetts.

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**Fred Viera** was born and raised in Miami. He graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Miami as a finance major. Fred earned his Juris Doctor and a Masters in Real Estate & Urban Analysis from the University of Florida. He also holds an M.B.A. degree from the University of Virginia where he attended on a fellowship and earned a concentration in entrepreneurship. He is admitted to practice law in Florida and Washington, D.C. Currently, Fred is a founding shareholder of the Viera|Yague Law Firm, in Miami, FL. He is experienced in various practice areas, including real estate transactions and litigation, corporate law, complex business litigation, and general commercial practice. He has litigated numerous cases in state and federal courts throughout Florida.

**Janet L. Walsh** is the CEO and President of Birchtree Global, LLC. Birchtree Global provides the legal, financial, tax, and human capital infrastructure for globalizing businesses. Her area of expertise lies in global startups, finance, infrastructure, and human capital performance. She has worked on the ground in 79 countries directing multi-functional teams of legal, financial, tax, and HR professionals in a wide variety of industries. Prior to working as CEO and President of Birchtree Global, Dr. Walsh worked in vice-president and senior executive positions in Fortune 500, global multinationals. She is an adjunct professor of global business in MBA programs at the New York Institute of Technology, and Manhattanville College in New York. Dr. Walsh holds a BA degree in Economics from Bucknell University, an MBA from Loyola University, and a DBA from the University of Phoenix. She speaks Spanish, French, and Japanese. She is a dual citizen of Ireland and the United States.

**Robert Wiley** is the Principal Engineer for Leopold’s clarification product line for Leopold, a xylem brand. He holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Grove City College. He has spent the past 14 years with the company in multiple engineering roles, spanning from R&D, project engineering, commissioning, and process design of municipal water and wastewater systems. He led the process application of Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) combined with gravity media filtration for RO pretreatment to combat Harmful Algal Blooms in open intake desalination facilities and was responsible for the commissioning of the first DAF system in commercial operation on the Arabian Gulf.