

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE) TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Miami Hilton Hotel

July 27–29, 2017

Conference Program

Cuba: Navigating in a Turbulent World

Cuban Economic and Social Developments

Chair: Helena Solo-Gabriele, University of Miami and ASCE President

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh, “Fidel Castro's Legacy on Cuba's Social Policy and the Current Situation”

Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Revista *Temas*, “La economía cubana: Por dónde anda y qué se debería esperar”

Jorge Pérez-López, U.S. Department of Labor (retired), “Cuba's Never Ending External Sector Crisis”

The Exchange System and the Balance of Payments

Luis R. Luis, “Cuba's Capital Account of the Balance of Payments”

Ernesto Hernández-Cata, The Foundry, Inc. and IMF (retired), “Rationalizing Cuba's Exchange System: The Perils of Gradualism”

Gabriel DiBella, IMF, and Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems, “Primer on Currency Unification and Exchange Rate Policy in Cuba: Lessons from Exchange Rate Unification in Transition”

Agriculture

William Messina, University of Florida, “Who are Cuba's Independent Farmers?”

José F. Alonso, Montgomery College, “Marabú, Charcoal, Exports and Dollars”

Olimpia Gómez, Tomás Depestre y Mayte Piñón, “Producciones de tomate y pimiento en el trópico: realidades y dificultades”

Mario González-Corzo, City University of New York (CUNY), “Prospects for Cuba's Usufruct Farmers”

Cuba: de la crisis a las propuestas para el futuro (organizado por el Centro de Estudios Convivencia, CEC)

Dagoberto Valdés Hernández, Director del CEC, “Cultura y educación en el futuro de Cuba: visión y propuestas”

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh y Consejo Académico del CEC, “Economía y educación en Cuba hoy”

Yoandy Izquierdo Toledo, Consejo Directivo del CEC, “La educación ética y cívica: una solución a la crisis económica y de valores en Cuba”

Cuban Economic Policies & Growth Strategies

Vadim Grishin, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Georgetown University, “Economic Reforms in Cuba: Myths and Realities”

Larry Catá Backer, Penn State University, “A Critical Look at Cuba’s National Economic and Social Development Plan 2030—With a Focus on the Tourism and Pharma Sectors”

Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired), “Encouraging Reform in Cuba: Can We Get It Right?”

Juan Tomás Sánchez, Sugarcane Growers Association of Cuba, Inc., “The Soft-Swift Transition of Cuba to a Hard Structure with Proven Results”

Perspectivas para Cuba: ¿Transición o Sucesión?

Presidencia: Julio Shiling, Patria de Martí

Reinaldo Cosano Alén, Agencia Sindical Press, “El cuentapropismo: Limitantes sistémicos y perspectivas de desarrollo”

Julio Cesar Fariña Pérez, Proyecto Emprende con Ciencia, “Realidades y perspectivas del trabajo por cuenta propia en el sector transporte”

Juan Carlos González Leiva, Consejo de Relatores de DDHH de Cuba, “El reordenamiento jurídico cubano: requisito para una transición”

Alina Bárbara López Hernández, Ediciones Matanzas, “¿Nominalistas o realistas? Los modernos teólogos de la economía cubana”

Foreign Investment in Cuba: Law, Policy, and Practicalities

Presenter: Larry Catá Backer, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar; Professor of Law and International Affairs, Penn State Law

Real Estate Sector

Violaine Jolivet, University of Montreal, “(Re) Investing Havana: Mobility and Socio-Spatial Mutations in the Cuban Capital”

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, Independent Consultant, “Recognizing the Obvious While Muddling the Housing Waters”

Martina Kunović, University of Wisconsin-Madison, “Cuba’s Emerging Real-Estate Sector: A Closer Look at Havana’s Inmobiliarias”

Coordinating U.S. and Cuban Legal Principles to Resolve Property and Damage Claims

Presenters: Pedro A. Freyre, Partner; Chair, International Practice, Akerman LLP; Rolando Anillo, Corporate Counsel, Florida Crystals Corp., and President, Cuban Claims Owners Association

The Water Economy in Cuba

Enrique Pumar, Santa Clara University; Helena Solo-Gabriele, University of Miami; and Joseph Treaster, University of Miami, “Water in Cuba and American Relations: A Neo-Functional Approach”

Gabriel Ferrer, “Water Disinfection Systems for Cuban Churches”

Thomas M. Getting, John Geibel, Mainor Vega, Robert Wiley III, and Hernán Cortés A., Xylem, Inc., “Rehabilitating Water Filter Systems with Potential Cuba Applications”

Genesis Vargas and Elizabeth Worsham, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, “Powering the Pearl: A Study of Cuba’s Energy Autonomy”

Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address

Marc Frank, Reuters Correspondent, Havana, “The Strategic Retreat: What’s Driving and Slowing Change in Cuba and U.S.-Cuban Relations”

Cuba-U.S. Economic Relations

Roger R. Betancourt, University of Maryland, “Cuba Normalization Policy in a Trump Administration: The Obvious, The Sensible, and The Subtle”

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, The Foundry, Inc. and IMF (retired), “Economic Relations between Cuba and the United States: Looking Beyond the Early Irrational Exuberance”

Paolo Spadoni, Augusta University, “U.S.-Cuba Business Relations under the Obama Administration and Prospects under the Trump Administration”

Student Panel I

Anthony Bencivengo, Sarah Lawrence College, “Sembrando la Sostenibilidad”

Pablo Boorsman-Mendoza, Utrecht University (Netherlands), “Peripheral Ideas that Won't Fly: EU Foreign Policy Decisions on Cuba and US Influence”

Julie Rausenberger, University of Louvain (Belgium), “Importing Modernity: Foreign Fashion and Identity-Making in Urban Cuba”

Kate Gaffney, New York University, “The Destruction of Havana's Neighborhoods: When Heritage Tourism Becomes a Priority Over Habitable Housing”

Student Panel II: Innovations and Advancements: Connecting Global Communities in Technology, Education, and Management in Cuba

Charles Bray, Jessie Lockhart, John Masters, Kim Levey, Pepperdine University, “What the U.S. Could Learn from Cuba and China: Looking into an ‘Alternative Universe’”

Jennifer Fox and Rebecca Park, Pepperdine University, “Cuban Labor Market and Human Capital: Is There a Misalignment?”

Vicky Panossian, Pepperdine University, “The Cuban Paradox: Revolution, Socialism and the Colorful Rhythm of the Cuban Soul”

Shimeka Bruton, Pepperdine University, “Exploring Reforms: Cuba's Minimum Wage Standard”

Sonya Sharifard and Lani Fraizer, Pepperdine University, “Exploring Cuban Vocational Education and Economic Stability”

Economic Analysis of Tourism and FDI

María Dolores Espino and Srabana Gupta, St. Thomas University, “Cuban Success with Canadian Tourists: A Comparative Analysis”

Sebastián Acevedo Mejía and Trevor Alleyne, IMF, and Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems, “Revisiting the Potential Impact to the Rest of the Caribbean from Opening U.S.-Cuba Tourism”

Jim Casey, Washington and Lee University, “Trip Attribute Importance and Willingness to Pay for Marine Conservation: An Exploratory Study of Potential U.S. Visitors to Cuba”

Janet L. Walsh, CEO and President, Birchtree Global, LLC, “Success Characteristics of Foreign Direct Investment in Cuba”

Private Sector

Ted A. Henken, Baruch College, City University of New York, “Between the 'Party Line' and the 'Bottom Line': El Proyecto Artecorte and the Virtuous Circle of Entrepreneurial Solidarity in One Old Havana Neighborhood”

Ståle Wig, University of Oslo, “A Comparative Framework for Understanding the Emerging Cuban Private Sector”

Vicente P. Escobal, ex-director del Instituto Cubano de Investigaciones Socio-Laborales y Económicas Independientes, “Las pequeñas y medianas empresas en Cuba: Antecedentes, actualidad y perspectivas”

Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group, “Deshielo y reformas crean una clase media y un nuevo balance de poder sin precedentes en casi 60 años”

Special Topics

Nicolás Sánchez, Professor Emeritus, College of the Holy Cross, “What If... Fulgencio Batista Had Been Black?”

Martin Palous, Director of Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy, FIU, “Vaclav Havel's Legacy and Cuba's Future”

Rodolfo J. Stusser, M.D., “Cuban and U.S. Healthcare Systems 1900-2016: Similarities, Differences, and Efficiencies”

Joanna Columbié, Somos, “La formación de liderazgo en la sociedad civil: Una necesidad imperativa para Cuba presente y futura?”

Social and Cultural Topics

Soren Triff, Bristol Community College, “Entre el gueto judío y el encierro cubano: la vida diaria y el artículo de costumbres digital bajo la economía de la miseria”

Yvon Grenier, St. Francis Xavier University, Canada, “The Revolution is Over, Isn’t it? The Use and Abuse of the Term ‘Revolution’ in Cuban Studies”

Idabell Rosales, Presidenta, Festival Vista, “La cultura independiente en Cuba y la transición: trabas y oportunidades”

La nueva economía cubana: casos de estudio

Beatriz Lima Lizama, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo-Cuba (CCRD-C), y René García Bello, asesor y colaborador de la estrategia de apoyo a las MiPyMEs del CCRD-C, “El turismo y el sector privado: Sinergias y potencialidades para el desarrollo local en Cárdenas”

Jessica Clemente, “Músicos y economía: el caso Matanzas”

Eneida Díaz Díaz y Teresa M. Cruz Martínez, emprendedoras beneficiadas por CCRD-C en Cárdenas, “El emprendimiento femenino en Cuba: Dos proyectos, dos historias de mujeres”

Buenaventura Rubén Rigol Cardona, Universidad de Holguín & Centro de Estudios de Políticas Alternativas para la Transición Democrática (CEPATD), “El sector transporte cubano, y el desarrollo económico comprometido”

Cuba and U.S. Legal Topics

Laritz Diversent, Agencia Cubalex, “Sociedad civil fortalecida, una necesidad imprescindible en el futuro democrático de Cuba”

Kevin Fandl, Fox School of Business, Temple University, “Adios Embargo: The Case for Executive Termination of the U.S. Economic Embargo on Cuba”

Fred Viera, Esq. and Isabel Yague, Esq., “The State of the U.S. Constitutional Right to International Travel and its Potential Socio-Economic Impact on Cuba”