Cuba: After Raúl?

Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy 28th Annual Meeting

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Cuba: After Raúl?
Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy
Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting
Miami, July 26-28, 2018

The Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
1601 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida 33132

PROGRAM

Thursday, July 26

8:00 a.m.   REGISTRATION and CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Concerto Foyer

9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. OPENING PLENARY (Concerto A&B)

1. Cuban Economic and Political Situation
Chair: Helena Soto-Gabriele, University of Miami and ASCE President
Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cárdenas, Cuba
Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York
Frank Mora, Florida International University
Dagoberto Valdés, Centro de Estudios Convivencia, Pinar del Río, Cuba

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK (Concerto Foyer)

11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2. Monetary Duality and Currency Unification (Concerto C)
Chair: Joaquín Pujol, International Monetary Fund (retired)
Luis Luis, International Research & Strategy Associates, "Cuban Peso Unification: Managed Rate and Monetary Analysis"
Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems, and Gabriel DiBella, International Monetary Fund, "Currency Unification: Progress in 2018"
Armando Linde, International Monetary Fund (retired), "Cuba's Currency Dilemma: Convergence--How and When"
Discussants: Pavel Vidal Alejandro, Universidad Javeriana, Cali, Colombia; Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Associate Director, International Monetary Fund (retired)

3. Special Topics (Concerto D)
Chair: Michael Strauss, Université de Paris 5
Alfred G. Cuzán, University of West Florida, "Evaluating Castro's Cuba, Franco's Spain and Pinochet's Chile: Economic, Social, and Political Indicators"
Teo A. Babún, Outreach Aid to the Americas, Miami, "Faith-Based Organizations’ Role in Civil Society Development and the Cuban Economy"
Soren Triff, Bristol Community College, MA, "Compañeros que nos 'atienen' y europeos que nos 'acompañan': la vida diaria y el humor negro bajo la economía de la miseria"
Discussants: Rodolfo Stusser, M.D.; Michael Strauss, Université de Paris 5

1:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.  LUNCH BREAK

2:30p.m. - 4:15 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

4. Agriculture (Concerto C)
Chair: William Messina, University of Florida
Armando Nova, Universidad de la Habana, "Sector Agropecuario Cubano: importancia económica y estratégica, recientes transformaciones, la intercooperación cooperativa y retos"
Olimpia Gómez Consuegra, Ing. Radamé Savón, Tomás Depestre, y José F. Alonso, "Experiencias en la instrumentación de huertos típicos en Cuba para contribuir a mejorar las necesidades nutricionales"
Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York, "Agricultural Reforms in Transition Economies: Principal Characteristics and Implications for Cuba"
Juan Tomás Sánchez, Sugarcane Growers Association of Cuba, Inc., Miami and Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York, "Características principales del modelo de producción de frutas y vegetales en Cuba antes de 1959 y perspectivas para su desarrollo en condiciones de cambio político y económico"
Discussants: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired) and William Messina, University of Florida

5. Transition Issues (Concerto D)
Chair: Carlos Quijano, World Bank (retired)
Vadim Grishin, Georgetown University, "Economic Cycles and Political Transition in Cuba"
Lorenzo Pérez, International Monetary Fund (retired), "Profundización financiera: Un sistema financiero y de valores posible para Cuba"
Enrique Pumar, Santa Clara University, California, "Is Another Way Possible? The Catholic Church's Position on the Transition and Reconciliation"
Vidal Romero, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de Mexico, "Liberalización económica y riesgos para la seguridad y la legalidad en Cuba"
Discussants: Armando Linde, International Monetary Fund (retired); Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cárdenas, Cuba

4:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.  COFFEE BREAK (Concerto Foyer)

4:30 p.m.-6:15 p.m.  Concerto A&B

Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture
Chair: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University
Presenter: Andrés Velasco, Columbia University, former Minister of Finance, Chile
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  COCKTAIL RECEPTION (Concerto Foyer)

Friday, July 27

8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.  REGISTRATION and CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Concerto Foyer

8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

6. Measuring the Performance of the Cuban Economy (Concerto A)
Chair: Paul Meo, World Bank (retired)
Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Associate Director, International Monetary Fund (retired), "Growth and Policy-Induced Distortions in the Cuban Economy. An Econometric Approach"
John Devereux, Queens College, "The Abolition of History: Cuban Living Standards Over the Very Long Run"
Luis Locay, University of Miami, and John Devereux, Queens College, "Comparing the Quality of Education in Pre- and Post-Revolutionary Cuba Using US Labor Market Outcomes"
Discussants: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University; Luis Luis, International Research & Strategy Associates

7. Legal/Commercial Issues (Concerto B)
Chair: Jorge Sanguinetty, DevTech Systems
José Gabilondo, College of Law, Florida International University, "Understanding OFAC’s New Restrictions on Direct Financial Transactions with the Cuban Government"
Rafael Andrés Velázquez Pérez, Universidad de Holguín y Universidad de Vigo, "The current legal framework for FDI in Cuba: Need for a BIT with the US"
William Messina and Frederick S. Royce, University of Florida, “How Much of its Food is Cuba Really Importing?”
Discussants: Rolando Anillo, School of Law, Tulane University; Antonio Gayoso, U.S. Agency for International Development (retired)

10:15 p.m.-10:30 a.m.  COFFEE BREAK (Concerto Foyer)

10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8. La economía cubana: su lugar en las Américas (Concerto A)
Chair: Roger Betancourt, Profesor Emérito, University of Maryland
Ponente:
Pavel Vidal Alejandro, Universidad Javeriana, Cali, "¿Qué lugar ocupa la economía cubana en la región? Una medición a la tasa PPA de las brechas de ingreso y productividad"
Comentaristas:
Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Profesor Emérito, University of Pittsburgh, “Pavel Vidal’s Conclusions and the UNDP Index of Human Development”
Jorge Pérez-López, U.S. Department of Labor (retired), "Reflections on Cuban National Income Statistics"
Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Associate Director, International Monetary Fund (retired), “A Comment on the Role of Total Factor Productivity in Explaining the Behavior of GDP in Cuba”

9. Student Panel I (Concerto B)
Chair: Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York
Tamarys Bahamonde, University of Delaware, "Mercado Laboral Cubano: Distorciones y Retos"
Miranda García, University of Michigan, "Cuban Stuff: Material Culture and the Cuban-American Imaginary"
Roberto Felipe Veloso, Instituto de Estudios Esclesiásticos Padre Félix Varela, Cuba, "La economía de comunión como una forma de emprendimiento en Cuba"
Discussants: TBA

12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. ASCE Official Luncheon (Concerto C)

ASCE Student Awards
Chair: Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York
Student Awards
Tamarys Bahamonde, University of Delaware, 1st Prize, Graduate
Roberto Felipe Veloso, Instituto de Estudios Esclesiásticos Padre Félix Varela, Cuba, 1st Prize, Graduate
Miranda García, University of Michigan, 2nd Prize, Graduate

Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address

2:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10. Session I on legal issues for CLE credit (Concerto A)
Lecturer: Rolando Anillo, Esq., School of Law, Tulane University, "Deep Dive into the Cuban Restricted Entities List and Interpretation of 31 CFR 515.208"

11. Cuba's Political/Economic Culture in the Post-Raúl Period (Concerto B)
Chair: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired)
Larry Catá Backer, Coalition for Peace & Ethics and Pennsylvania State University, "The Challenge of Preserving the Revolutionary Moment in Changing Times"
Arturo López-Levy, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley and Ralf Otto Niederstrasser, Council on Hemispheric Affairs, "Five Keys to Cuba's Presidential Change in 2018"
Luis Carlos Battista, Center for Democracy in the Americas, Washington, D.C., "Cuba’s Post-Revolutionary Foreign Policy"
Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired), "Cuba's Political and Economic Arteriosclerosis: It is not just the Castro's"
11b. Student Panel II (virtual panel) (Concerto D)
Co-Chairs: Michael Strauss, Université de Paris 5; Frank Carlos Martinez, The Havana Consulting Group; Lani Fraizer, Pepperdine University; Sonya Shariffard, Pepperdine University
Simin Taylor and Nasrin Mohammadi, Pepperdine University, "A comparative study of human rights in Cuba and the Islamic Republic of Iran"
Kimberly Navarro, Rebecca Laff, Ricckay King, and Karl White, Pepperdine University, "Exploring the impact of Trump’s travel restriction policy on the Cuban economy"
Julio Hanso, Felipe Martinez, Jenny Chang, Toby Baker, Julie Sumner, Hadi Rajabbeigi, and Lani Fraizer, Pepperdine University, "Cuban healthcare"
Stephanie Dau, Neal Keith, Clarence Caldwell, Beruk Demisse, and Dillon Condon, Pepperdine University, "Cuba’s infrastructure and changes: A way forward"

After screening of the video presentations, presenters will join the live audience for a Q and A via Zoom

4:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.  COFFEE BREAK (Concerto Foyer)

4:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

12. Session II on legal issues for CLE credit (Concerto A)
Lecturer: Pedro Pedro Freyre, Esq., Akerman LLP, "Preparing a Self Disclosure Filing with OFAC"

13. Sectoral Issues (Concerto B)
Chair: Oscar Echevarría, GlobalExpand
Jorge R. Piñón, University of Texas at Austin, "The Cuban Electric Power Sector: Cornerstone in a Comprehensive National Energy Policy"
Jorge Horacio Medina, Presidente del Sindicato de Profesionales y Técnicos de PDVSA; international oil consultant, “PDVSA: El Saqueo del Siglo XXI”
Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group, "Industria turística cubana en el ojo de la tormenta"
Rafael Gordo Núñez, Instituto Cubano de Economía Aplicada para una Transición Democrática, Santa Clara, Cuba, "Sostenibilidad económica de medios de comunicación en Cuba e independencia editorial frente a las fuentes de financiamiento externo y la ambigüedad legal del internet en el país"
Discussants: Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems; María Dolores Espino, St. Thomas University

6:45 a.m.-8:15 p.m.  ASCE BUSINESS MEETING
Concerto A

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Saturday, July 28

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.  REGISTRATION and CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Concerto Foyer

9:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

14. From the Cuban Adjustment Act to the Wet Foot/Dry Foot Policy: New Legal Issues in the Cuban Exodus (Concerto A)
Chair and Discussant: Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Marisa Casablanca, Esq., Akerman LLP, Miami
Juliana G. Lamardo, Esq., Law Offices of Juliana G. Lamardo, Miami
Willy Allen, Esq., Law Offices of Wilfredo O. Allen, Miami

15. Labor Market and Demographic Issues (Concerto B)
Chair: John Zemko, Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), Washington, D.C.
Ted Henken, Baruch College, City University of New York, “¿El perfeccionamiento del trabajo por cuenta propia? An Analysis of the State of Self-Employment in Cuba a Year After the August 2017 Licensing Freeze”
John Vertovec, Florida International University, "Utilizing Intersectionality to Analyze Social Diversity in Cuban Self-Employment"
Humberto Barreto, DePauw University, Indiana, "Cuba’s Demographic Headwinds"
Aleida Cobas-Valdés, University of the Basque Country, Spain, and Mario A. González-Corzo, Lehman College, The City University of New York, "Who migrated from Cuba to U.S? The role of education on the probability to migrate"
Discussants: Antonio Gayoso, U.S. Agency for International Development (retired); Sergio Diaz-Briquets, Independent Consultant

10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  COFFEE BREAK (Concerto Foyer)

11:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

16. El Proyecto Consulta Popular Cubana: una propuesta de reconocimiento constitucional del derecho de todos los cubanos en la economía nacional para una salida democrática (Concerto A)
Moderador: Gilberto Conill Godoy
Panelistas:
Dr. Santiago A. Alpízar
Dr. Horacio Espino Bárzaga
Lic. Vladimir Nodal

17. Experiencias de cuentapropistas (Concerto B)
Presidente: Ted Henken, Baruch College, City University of New York
Niuris Higueras, co-owner L'Atelier and Tierra Paladares, La Habana
Camilo Condis, Bed and Breakfast owner and manager of ArteCorte Community Project, La Habana

2:00 p.m.-3:45 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

18. Education, Health and Nutrition Issues (Concerto B)
Chair: Elizabeth Venable, UNESCO, Havana
Camilo Condis, Bed and Breakfast owner and manager of ArteCorte Community Project, La Habana
Juliana G. Lamardo, Esq., Law Offices of Juliana G. Lamardo, Miami
Marisa Casablanca, Esq., Akerman LLP, Miami
Willy Allen, Esq., Law Offices of Wilfredo O. Allen, Miami

3:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.  COFFEE BREAK (Concerto Foyer)

4:30 p.m.-6:15 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Roberto Díaz Vázquez, Director, Fundación Logos, La Habana, "La Propiedad como Principio y Derecho Real"
Comentarista: Maria Werlau, Archivo Cuba