

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

The Miami Hilton Hotel
July 26–28, 2018

Conference Program Cuba: After Raúl?

Cuban Economic and Political Situation

Chair: Helena Soto-Gabriele, University of Miami and ASCE President
Omar Everlenny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cárdenas, Cuba
Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York
Dagoberto Valdés, Centro de Estudios Convivencia, Pinar del Río, Cuba

Monetary Duality and Currency Unification

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”

Special Topics

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 ‘atienden’ y europeos que nos ‘acompañan’: la vida diaria y el humor negro bajo la economía de la miseria”
Nicolás Sánchez, Professor Emeritus, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA and Michael Gendre, “The Role of Fake News in the Genesis of the Cuban Revolution: A Comparison of Cuba, Florida and France around 1950”

Agriculture

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”

Transition Issues

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”

Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University

Presenter: Andrés Velasco, Columbia University, former Minister of Finance, Chile, “Economic Growth, Populism and Democracy”

Measuring the Performance of the Cuban Economy

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 Absolution 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”

Legal/Commercial Issues

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?”

La economía cubana: su lugar en las Américas

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”

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”

Student Panel I

Tamaris Bahamonde, University of Delaware, “Mercado Laboral Cubano: Distorsiones y Retos”

Miranda Garcia, 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”

Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address

Mark Sullivan, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, “The Role of Congress in U.S. Policy Toward Cuba”

Seminar on Cuban Legal Issues

Rolando Anillo, Esq., School of Law, Tulane University, “Deep Dive into the Cuban Restricted Entities List and Interpretation of 31 CFR 515.208”

Pedro Pedro Freyre, Esq., Akerman LLP, “Preparing a Self Disclosure Filing with OFAC”

Cuba’s Political/Economic Culture in the Post-Raúl Period (Concerto B)

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 Castros”

Student Panel II

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 Hanson, 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”

Sectoral Issues

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”

From the Cuban Adjustment Act to the Wet Foot/Dry Foot Policy: New Legal Issues in the Cuban Exodus

Chair: Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan

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

Labor Market and Demographic Issues

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”

El Proyecto Consulta Popular Cubana: una propuesta de reconocimiento constitucional del derecho de todos los cubanos en la economía nacional para una salida democrática Moderador: Gilberto Conill Godoy

Panelistas: Dr. Santiago A. Alpízar; Dr. Horacio Espino Bárzaga; Lic. Vladimir Nodal

Experiencias de cuentapropistas

Niuris Higuera, co-owner L’Atelier and Tierra Paladares, La Habana

Camilo Condis, Bed and Breakfast owner and manager of ArteCorte Community Project, La Habana

Roberto Díaz Vázquez, Director, Fundación Logos, La Habana, “La Propiedad como Principio y Derecho Real”