



ASCE 2019

July 25-27, 2019 | Miami, Florida



Cuba - Growth or Decline: Is the Revolution Dead?

Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy 29th Annual Meeting

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CUBA STUDY GROUP

Date of this Final Program--8/5/2019

**ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING**

July 25-27, 2019

FINAL PROGRAM

Thursday, July 25

8:00 AM REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 AM - 10:45 AM OPENING PLENARY

Carmelo Mesa-Lago Opening Plenary

Chair: Silvia Pedraza, ASCE President

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus, Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh, "*The Cuban Economy After 60 Years of Revolution: Continuities and Changes*"

Mauricio de Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Cali, Colombia, "*Economía Política y Relaciones de Propiedad en la Nueva Constitución Cubana*"

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM COFFEE BREAK

11:00 AM - 12:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1. Where is Self-Employment in Cuba Headed?

Chair: Jorge Pérez-López, U.S. Department of Labor, retired

Sharon A. Alvarez, Joseph M. Katz School of Business, University of Pittsburgh; Jay B. Barney, Eccles College of Business, University of Utah; Arielle Badger Newman, College of Business and Economic Development, University of Southern Mississippi; and Alexander Plomaritis, "*Competing Institutional Logics and the Emergence of Entrepreneurship in Cuba: The Case of Havana's Paladares*"

Ted Henken, Baruch College, CUNY, "*¿Perfección o pérdida? What Has Been the Impact of the New Rules for Cuentapropismo in Cuba Since December 7, 2018?*"

Camilo Condis, MBA, Cuentapropista and Manager, Proyecto Artecorte

Discussant: Denisse Delgado, UMass-Boston

2. U.S. Policy Toward Cuba: Old and New

Chair: Stephen Kimmerling, Esq.

Pedro Freyre, Akerman LLP, *"Evaluating a Title III Claim: Is the Game Worth the Candle?"*

Rolando Anillo, Tulane University Law School, *"Title III and IV Cases: Property, Trafficking and Authorization by Previous Owner Considerations"*

Discussants: Natalia Delgado, Columbia Law School; Peter Fox, Scoolidge Peters Russotti & Fox LLP

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM LUNCH BREAK

2:30 PM - 4:15 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3. Cuba, Venezuela, and Russia—Oil, Doctors and Weapons

Chair: Luis Luis, International Economist

Jorge R. Piñón, The University of Texas at Austin and Universidad Autónoma de Mexico, *"Cuba's Petroleum Situation: Scenarios for the Future"*

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Associate Director, IMF, retired. *"Cuba's Swaps of Petroleum for Doctors and the Economic Impact of Cutbacks in Venezuelan Oil"*

Vadim Grishin, George Washington University, *"Russia's Conundrum: Playing Out Its New Role in Venezuela and Maintaining a Future Imprint in Cuban Development"*

Discussants: Efraín J. Velázquez, Consejo de Economía Nacional de Venezuela; Armando Linde, IMF, retired.

4. Development Issues and Strategies

Chair: Joaquín P. Pujol, IMF, retired

Enrique S. Pumar, Santa Clara University, *"The Ideological Embeddedness of Cuban Educational Schooling"*

Buenaventura Rigol Cardona y Erik Reyes Gómez, Universidad de Holguin, *"Paradigmas educativos no formales de la generación 'Z' cubana"*

Larry Press, California State University, Dominguez Hills, *"Next Generation Internet Policy and Technology in Cuba"*

Yaneisis Infante Quintas and Ted A. Henken, Baruch College, *"The Competitive Branding of the Cuban Travel Experience in a Time of Political Flux: State, Private and Social Media"*

Discussants: Alfred Cuzán, University of West Florida; Emilio Morales, Havana Consulting Group

4:15 PM - 4:30 PM COFFEE BREAK

4:30 PM - 6:15 PM PLENARY SESSION

5. Cuba's 2019 Constitution

Chair: Rogelio de la Torre

Larry Catá Backer, Penn State University, *"Popular Participation in the Constitution of the Illiberal State—An Empirical Study of Popular Engagement and Constitutional Reform in Cuba and the Contours of Cuban Socialist Democracy 2.0"*

Jose Gabilondo, Florida International University Law School, *"Cuba's Civil Society in Conflict: Constitutional Debates About Same-Sex Marriage"*

Boris González Arenas, Miembro de la Mesa de Unidad de Acción Democrática y colaborador de Diario de Cuba, *"El castrismo y las regulaciones que lo propician"*

Discussants: Jorge Esquirol, Florida International University Law School.

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM ASCE WELCOMING RECEPTION AND COCKTAIL

Friday, July 26

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM ASCE BUSINESS MEETING

8:00 AM REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 AM - 10:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

6. Cuba and Venezuela: Two Wings of the Same Bird?

Chair: Oscar Echevarría, GlobalExpand

Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, and Carlos Romero, Universidad Central de Venezuela, *"Two Revolutions Compared: Cuba and Venezuela"*

Orçun Selçuk, Florida International University, *"Inclusionary vs. Exclusionary Populism and Leader Polarization in Venezuela"*

Jorge Duany, Instituto de Investigaciones Cubanas, Universidad Internacional de la Florida, *"Relaciones económicas entre los cubanos y venezolanos emigrados con sus países de origen"*

Discussants: Jorge Domínguez, Harvard University, retired; Efraín J. Velázquez, Consejo de Economía Nacional de Venezuela.

7. Agriculture

Chair: Felipe Manteiga, USAID, retired

William Messina, University of Florida, *"The Evolution of Cuba's Mineral Fertilizer Usage: A Sixty Year Retrospective"*

Olimpia Gómez and Tomás Depestre, *"Producción de semillas hortícolas en el sector privado cubano: Estudio de caso"*

Armando Nova González, Universidad de la Habana, *"Seguridad Alimentaria en Cuba"*

Mario González-Corzo, City University of New York, Lehman College, *"Agricultural Productivity in Post-Reform Cuba"*

Juan Tomás Sánchez, *"Retos y Perspectivas para la Agro-Industria Cañera Cubana"*

Discussant: José Alvarez, University of Florida, retired

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM COFFEE BREAK

11:00 AM - 12:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8. Cuban Internationalism

Chair and Discussant: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State, retired
Juan Antonio Blanco, Hugo Achá, Rolando Cartaya and Casto Ocando, Foundation for Human Rights in Cuba, "*Cubazuela: Chronicle of a Cuban Intervention*"
María C. Werlau, Cuba Archive, "*Cuba's Intervention in Venezuela: A Unique Form of Occupation*"

9. Contemporary Economic and Social Issues

Chair: Armando Linde, IMF, retired
Roger R. Betancourt, University of Maryland, "*Cuba's 'Structural' Reforms: A Missed Opportunity*"
Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Associate Director, IMF, retired, "*Why is Cuba's Unemployment Rate so Low? Or is it Really That Low?*"
Orlando Justo, BMCC/City University of New York, "*Growth and Development of the Cuban Art Market: Thoughts for a Debate*"
Discussants: John Devereux, Queens College; Gustavo Arnavat, Senior Advisor, CSIS

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM ASCE OFFICIAL LUNCHEON

Ernesto Betancourt Keynote Address: Lillian Guerra, University of Florida, "*Heroes, Martyrs, and Political Messiahs in 1950s Cuba: Parables and Legacies for Today*"

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10. Sixty Years of Castroism: The Economy

Chair: Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Associate Director, IMF, retired
John Devereux, Queens College, "*Cuban Living Standards after 60 Years of Revolutionary Rule*"
Jorge Sanguinety, DevTech Systems, "*What We Know, What We Don't About the Cuban Economy*"
Luis Luis, International Economist, "*Cuba: International Economic Relations, 1959-2019: Trade, Aid and Debt*"
Discussant: Luis Locay, University of Miami

11. International Perspectives

Chair: Mary Speck, Historian

Felipe Manteiga, USAID (retired), *"El futuro comercio internacional de Cuba y la experiencia vivida por otros en la Gran Cuenca del Caribe"*

Santiago Arturo Cárdenas, MD, *"El contralegado de Castro: La Europeización de Cuba"*

Martin Palous, Florida International University, *"Cuba in 2019: A Central European Perspective"*

Discussants: René Costales, Inter-American Development Bank, retired; Rodolfo Stusser, MD

4:45 PM - 5:00 PM COFFEE BREAK

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

12. 60 Years of Castroism: Social Welfare, Demography and Agriculture

Chair: Carlos Quijano, World Bank, retired

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus, Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh, *"Social Welfare in Cuba after 60 Years of Revolution"*

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, International Consultant, *"Cuba's Demographic Evolution since the Revolution: A Regional Comparative Perspective"*

José Alvarez, University of Florida, retired, *"Profecías sobre el sector agropecuario: el record de Fidel Castro"*

Discussant: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF, retired

13. Is Cuba's Authoritarian State Changing: Can It Inch to Democracy?

Chair: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State, retired

Jorge Domínguez, Harvard University, retired, *"The Democratic Claims of Communist Regime Leaders: Cuba's Council of State in a Comparative Context"*

Larry Catá-Backer, Penn State University, *"Lineamientos, Conceptualización and Plan Económico 2030 in the Shadow of the Trump Administration's Post-2017 Caribbean Regional Policies"*

Alfred Cuzán, University of West Florida, *"Suggestions for the Design of an Electoral System in a Free Cuba"*

Discussant: Maria C. Werlau, Cuba Archive

7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENT

Screening of “Statistics and Chance: A Documentary about Carmelo Mesa-Lago”

This film documentary presents an intimate view of the 'Dean of Cuban Studies' and 'Master of Social Security in Latin America', Dr. Carmelo Mesa-Lago. His personal and academic history is told as a counterpoint between chance and the tireless pursuit of objectivity. The film engages in a conversation about the avatars of producing a scientific discussion on the economic policies of the Cuban revolution from outside Cuba, despite the constant attempts to discredit Mesa-Lago's work made by the island's government of some members of academia. Mesa-Lago's exile experience, family relations, and enormous gratitude for his wife Elena Gross, combine to create an essential record for the memory of the Cuba of the last sixty years.

Directed by Carlos D. Díaz Montero and produced by Elaine Acosta González

Saturday July 27

8:00 AM REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 AM - 10:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

14. The Cuban Economy: Then and Now

Chair: Roger R. Betancourt, University of Maryland

John Devereux, Queens College, *"The Descent of Cuba"*

Jorge Pérez-López, U.S. Department of Labor, retired, *"Cuba's Sugar Industry: From Front-Runner to Back of the Pack"*

Roberto F. Rasúa, Instituto de Estudios Eclesiásticos P. Félix Varela, *"La Economía de Comunción como una forma de emprendimiento para Cuba"*

Discussants: Roger R. Betancourt, University of Maryland; Enrique Pumar, Santa Clara University

15. A New Special Period?

Chair: Mario A. González-Corzo, Lehman College, The City University of New York

Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group, *"Primer año de gestión de Díaz-Canel: regreso meteórico a las puertas del período especial"*

Alfredo Fernández Rodríguez, Havana Times, *"Cuba ante la proximidad de una nueva crisis económica: Posibles respuestas del régimen de La Habana"*

Miriam Leiva, Periodista Independiente, *"Precariedad económica: Implicaciones sociales y el futuro de Cuba"*

Jack Vertovec, Florida International University and Tamaris Bahamonde, University of Delaware, *"This Crisis will be Different: A comparative case-study of unequal economic realities in contemporary Havana, Cuba"*

Discussants: Mauricio de Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Cali, Colombia; John Zemko, Center for International Private Enterprise

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK

10:30 AM - 12:15 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

16. Author Meets Critics--Historical Work of José "Pepín" Alvarez

Chair: Enrique Pumar, Santa Clara University

Remarks by José "Pepín" Alvarez, Emeritus Professor, University of Florida

Comments by Enrique Pumar, Santa Clara University, and María C. Werlau, Cuba Archive

17. Contexto Político y Activismo Cívico en la Cuba Actual

Coordinador: Armando Chaguaceda, Universidad de Guanajuato

Armando Chaguaceda, Universidad de Guanajuato; Sergio Martín, Escuela de Política y Relaciones Internacionales, Universidad Sergio Arboleda, "*Nueva Constitución en Cuba: algunas reflexiones*"

Lennier López, Florida International University; Armando Chaguaceda, Universidad de Guanajuato; y Carlos Torrealba, FLACSO (México), "*La sociedad civil cubana y el entorno (post)normalización: Un análisis de dos casos*"

Isbel Díaz Torres, Proyecto El Guardabosques, "*Derechos de acceso ante una nueva Constitución*"

Jimmy Roque Martínez, Proyecto Arcoiris, "*Derechos LGBTIQ: actual fuente de disputa política en Cuba*"

ASCE XXIX



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