

11 August 2020

# ***Cuba From the Castros to COVID:*** ***An ASCE Virtual Conference***

August 13-15, 2020

**August 13, 10.15 am – 10.30 am**

## **INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**

ASCE President (2018-2020) *Silvia Pedraza*, University of Michigan

**August 13, 10.30 a.m. – Noon**

### **1. The Cuban Economy and Prospects After COVID-19**

Chair: *Silvia Pedraza*, University of Michigan

*Larry Catá-Backer*, Pennsylvania State University, and *Yuri Gonzalez Hernandez*, Cuban Lawyer, “Cuba’s Response to COVID-19 and the Consequences for Cuba of the Pandemic”

*Ricardo Torres Pérez*, Universidad de la Habana, “The Cuban economic puzzle after the pandemic”

*Elías Amor Bravo*, ESIC Business & Marketing School, Valencia, Spain Campus, “Cuba: Return to Communist Normalcy After COVID-19”

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**August 13, 2.30 pm – 4 pm**

### **2. The Cuba-Venezuela Economic Relationship**

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

*Carmelo Mesa-Lago*, University of Pittsburgh, “Adverse External Sector Impacts on the Cuban Economy”

*Luis R. Luis*, “Venezuelan-Cuban Mutual Aid: Grants, Subsidies and Fantasies”

*Vadim Grishin*, George Washington University, “Venezuela and Cuba: Inside a Perfect Storm of Sanctions, Corporate Politics and Changing Economic Policies”

**August 14, 10.30 am - Noon**

3. **“Destrabando” the Cuban Economy: An Assessment of Reforms and the Road Ahead**

Chair: *Natalia Delgado*, Columbia University

*Jorge Pérez-López*, U.S. Department of Labor (retired), "Raúl's Reforms: Progress and Pending Issues."

*Pavel Vidal*, Universidad Javeriana de Cali, Colombia, "The Great Lockdown and the Cuban Economy: First Impacts and Policy Responses"

*Pedro Manuel Monreal Gonzalez*, UNESCO, "Companies and the sequence of economic reform in Cuba."

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**August 14, 2.30 pm – 4 pm**

**4. Carlos Díaz Alejandro Lecture**

Chair: *Carlos Seiglie*, Rutgers University

Distinguished Speaker:

*Alejandro de la Fuente*, Harvard University, "Racism with Equality? Measuring Racial Inequality in Cuba, 1980-2010"

Discussant:

*Tanya K. Hernandez*, Fordham University Law School

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**August 15, 10.30 am – Noon**

**5. Roundtable on Currency Developments**

Chair: *Joaquín Pujol*, International Monetary Fund (retired)

Experts:

*Roberto Orro*, Caribbean Analysis Unit, San Juan, Puerto Rico

*Pavel Vidal*, Universidad Javeriana de Cali, Colombia

*Omar Everlenny Pérez Villanueva*, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, La Habana

*Rafael Romeu*, DevTech Systems

*Lorenzo Pérez*, International Monetary Fund (retired)

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**August 15, 2.30 pm – 4 pm**

**6. Student Panel**

Chair: *Mario González-Corzo*, Lehman College, CUNY

*Adriana Vitagliano*, Oxford University, "Remittances and Protest: The Case of Cuba."

*Denisse Delgado*, University of Massachusetts, "The Cuban Diaspora's Participation in the Economic and Political Changes on the Island."

*Isabelle DeSisto*, Harvard University, "Atoms for Autonomy: Explaining the Cuban Reaction to the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident."

Discussants:

*Enrique Pumar*, Santa Clara University

*Michael Strauss*, Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies (Paris)

**August 15 4.00 pm – 4.30 pm**

**CLOSING REMARKS**

ASCE President (2020-2022) *Gary Maybarduk*, U.S. Department of State (retired)