

## ELECTION 2008

### **CANDIDATES' BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES** **Board FY 2008-09/FY 2009-10**

#### **Candidate for President:**

**\*Jorge A. Sanguinety**, a Ph.D. in Economics from City University of New York, is President and CEO of DevTech Systems, Inc., an economic consulting firm. Born in Havana, Cuba, he worked for the Central Planning Board and the Department of the Sugar Industry. He settled in New York City in 1967, where he worked for Merrill Lynch, the National Bureau of Economic Research and Manufacturers' Hanover Trust. In 1973 he earned a postdoctoral scholarship in Yale University where he lectured in economics. Subsequently he was a research associate for the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. and later he joined the United Nations Development Programme in Rio de Janeiro while teaching at Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro. In 1978 he founded the Latin American Program in Applied Economics at the American University in Washington, D.C. In 1990 he helped found and develop the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy. He writes a weekly column for *Diario Las Americas* and is the author of *Cuba: Realidad y Destino, Presente y Futuro de la Economía y la Sociedad Cubanas*.

#### **Candidates for Board of Directors:**

**Juan A. B. Belt**, an economist and career member of the US Senior Foreign Service, is the Director of the Infrastructure and Engineering Office of the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Besides managing the Office, he has been personally involved in the evaluation of the Government of Egypt's strategy for ICT; the design of a program in Colombia to provide rural connectivity using wireless technologies; and support for energy reforms in Colombia, Honduras and Nicaragua. He has also been involved in planning for a political and economic transition in Cuba. He has been a member of ASCE since its foundation and served in the Board 2004-06. He has made several presentations at ASCE meetings including two recent ones on the electric power sector and on infrastructure in general in Cuba. He has also worked for the World Bank and the Inter-American

Development Bank (IDB). He studied economics at Georgetown, American and Cornell, and has taught economics at universities in the US and Latin America. He was born in Havana, Cuba.

**\*MARIO A. GONZÁLEZ CORZO** was born in Santa Clara, Villa Clara, Cuba. He is currently employed as Assistant Professor at *Lehman College* of the *City University of New York, CUNY*, where he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in international economics and finance. In addition, he is a Contributing Editor on the Cuban Economy for the *Handbook of Latin American Studies (HLAS)* published by the *Library of Congress (LOC)*, and serves as the Faculty Advisor for the Lehman College Chapter of *Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE)* – The International Honor Society in Economics. Dr. González Corzo is also a Faculty Fellow at the *Cuba Project* at the *Bildner Center of The Graduate Center* at the *City University of New York, CUNY*. His research interests and publications include Cuba's post-Soviet economic reforms, the impact of remittances in the Cuban economy, and Cuba's agricultural, banking, housing, and tourism sectors. Dr. González Corzo has more than a decade of experience in the financial services industry, including senior roles and functions at major firms such as: *Pricewaterhouse Coopers, L.L.P.*, *Credit Suisse*, and the *Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A.* He received his *Ph.D.* in International Studies/Economics from Rutgers University.

**\*Daniel P. Erikson** is senior associate for U.S. policy and director of Caribbean programs at the Inter-American Dialogue, where he has directed projects on U.S.-Latin American relations, China-Latin American relations, and Cuba and the Caribbean. His articles have appeared in *The Brown Journal of World Affairs*, *Current History*, *Journal of Democracy*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Miami Herald*, *The National Interest*, *SAIS Review*, *The Washington Post*, and *World Policy Journal*. He is coeditor of *Transforming Socialist Economies: Lessons for Cuba and Beyond* (New York, Palgrave MacMillan, 2005). Mr. Erikson has participated in the annual meetings of ASCE for the past several years, and his ASCE essays have been revised and published as book chapters and articles, in addition to appearing in *Cuba in Transition*, Volumes 13-17. His forthcoming book, *The Cuba Wars: Fidel Castro, the United States, and the Next Revolution*, will be published by Bloomsbury Press in the fall of 2008. Mr. Erikson's past positions include research associate at Harvard Business School and Fulbright scholar in U.S.-Mexican business relations. He earned a Masters in Public Policy as a Dean's Fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and a BA from Brown University. He is a native of Maine.

**Geni Gomez** has been an ASCE sponsor member since 2005. He served as commentator in ASCE 2006. Having personally witnessed the Eastern European transition and its impact on Cuba, he offered in 2007 a plenary presentation on the specific experience of Hungary. He also was an organizer and presenter of two panels on a strategic scenario for a Cuban future. Geni was born and raised in Cuba. He currently lives in Northern Virginia, after years in Hungary, Russia and Brazil. He speaks Spanish, Hungarian, Portuguese and English. he has

earned an MBA from the Georgetown University; an engineer-economist post-graduate specialization in foreign trade from the Budapest University of Economic Sciences; a BSc in chemistry from the University of Havana; and a BSChE specialized in oil refining from the University of Veszprem. He is today a housing analysis and research director at Freddie Mac, where he first was a senior corporate strategic analyst. He has also worked as an oil trader and chief economic and market analyst for the Hungarian energy company MOL. In between, Geni worked in Brazil as Internet project manager for the Anglo-American advertising firm Lowe.

**\*Ricardo Lago** is currently a Visiting Professor at Florida International University, whose previous vast professional experience includes senior level positions with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development as Deputy Chief Economist (1993-2003); the Inter-American Development Bank in charge of the Macroeconomic Policy Division (1991-93); and the World Bank as Senior Economist with responsibilities in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region (1985-91). From 1980-85, he held high level position in the Mexican Government, first as co-coordinator of macroeconomic policy in the Office of Advisors to the President of the Republic (Oficina de Asesores del Presidente de la República); and later as Director of Economic Policy in Mexico's finance ministry (Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público). He has done extensive research on macroeconomic and transition issues. His numerous articles and papers have appeared in the most prestigious publications in Europe, the United states, and Latin America. Mr. Lago holds graduate degrees in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles (USA), and Universidad del Pais Vasco (Spain).

**\*Stuart H. Lippe**, originally from Indiana, spent part of his childhood in Cuba, as well as Singapore and several European countries. He received a BA from the University of Michigan and studied at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, and later at the National War College. Joining the U.S. Foreign Service, Lippe served at posts in Europe, Latin America and Africa. His last overseas assignment prior to retiring in 1989 was as Political Counselor at the U.S. Mission in Geneva, with responsibilities for pursuing United States' policy involving human rights issues at the United Nations Human Rights Commission. He was the principal author of several resolutions critical of Cuba's human rights performance. In Washington, Lippe was Deputy Director of the Office Caribbean Affairs followed by a tour as Deputy Director of the Office of Cuban Affairs. After retiring from the Department of State, he worked as Director of the Research Department at Radio Marti, from 1992 to 1997, in charge of a staff responsible for collecting, analyzing and disseminating accurate information in support of U.S. Government broadcasting to Cuba. Since then, Lippe has worked at the World Bank and on Y2K issues. Most recently he is a consultant to the State Department on programs in Colombia. During the 2000-2002 period he was a member of ASCE's Board of Directors and its Secretary.

**Gary Maybarduk** is an independent foreign affairs consultant. He is currently writing a book on the implications of a Cuban transition for US Foreign Policy. Before retiring from a thirty-year career with the Department of State, Gary was Co-Chairman and Director of the Economic Working Group of the President's Commission on Assistance to Free Cuba. In the

late nineties he was Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs at the US Interests Section in Havana. He also served as Economic Counselor in Caracas, Deputy Chief of Mission in Sierra Leone, Treasury Attaché in Mexico City, and chief of the economic sections in Nicaragua and Papua New Guinea. From 2002-2004 he was a Professor at the Army War College, teaching courses on national security strategy, regional affairs and economics. In the State Department Gary served as Director of the Latin American Bureau's Office of Central American Affairs and Deputy Director of the Office of Economic Policy and Summit Coordination. Gary also spent a sabbatical year as foreign and military affairs advisor for Senator John Danforth. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota and master's degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the National War College. He published his first article on Cuba's lack of preparedness for a transition in 1999. Since then he has been an active member of ASCE, presented several more papers at the annual meetings, and regularly led and served as a discussant on ASCE panels.

**Dr. Terry Maris** is the founding Executive Director of the Center for Cuban Business Studies, Professor of Management, Editor of the *Journal of Cuban Business Studies*, and former Dean of the Ohio Northern University College of Business Administration. Prior to entering academe, Terry served two combat tours in Vietnam where he was thrice wounded. Upon completion of his doctoral degree at the University of Nebraska he became a management consultant with clients that have included Anheuser Busch, Canon, Kroger, Sears, and the U.S. State Department. He is a former Chair of the Management Consulting Division of the Academy of Management and currently serves on its Board of Directors. Over a 30-year career his teaching and research have been in management, organizational behavior, and strategy/policy. His focus is on preparing U.S. business leaders, government officials, and college students for the eventual normalization of relations between the United States and Cuba. Currently he serves as the Resident Director of ONU's Environmental Management program at the University of Havana under the authority of the U.S. Treasury Department.

**Roberto Orro Fernández** is an economist graduated from the University of Havana, Cuba. He holds a Master in Economics from el Colegio de México, one of the top institutions in the teaching of Economics in Latin America. Mr. Orro has accumulated a vast professional experience in different countries. He worked in the military construction sector in Cuba, as a lecturer researcher in the University of Havana, the University of Guanajuato, Mexico, and as an economic consultant for private firms in Puerto Rico. Since 2005, Roberto Orro works as an independent economic and financial consultant in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He is a member of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy since 1997 and has made contributions in the fields of monetary policy, dollarization in Cuba and economic and political transition in former socialist countries.

\***Silvia Pedraza** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Long a Wolverine, she was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan. Her Ph. D. in Sociology is from the University of Chicago. Her research interests are in the areas of the sociology of immigration, race, and ethnicity in America, as well as the sociology of Cuba's revolution

and exodus. In the American Sociological Association she was an elected member of its Council. She was also elected as the Chair of the Section on Latinos in the United States and the Chair of the Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities. At the University of Michigan, she was elected to the Curriculum Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, as well as of the University's Senate Assembly and the Senate's Executive Committee (SACUA), for which she was also elected Vice-Chair. She is the author of three books and numerous articles. Her most recent book is: Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus (Cambridge University Press, 2007). Some of her articles are: "Assimilation or Transnationalism? Conceptual Models of the Immigrant Experience," in Ram Mahalingham, ed. Cultural Psychology of Immigrants (Lawrence & Earlbaum, 2006); "Beyond Black and White: Latinos and Social Science Research on Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in America" Social Science History (Winter 2000); and "Women and Migration: The Social Consequences of Gender" Annual Review of Sociology (August 1991). She has also conducted research on "Ethnic Enterprise: Self-Employment among Latin American and Asian Immigrants in Chicago," funded by both the National Science Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

**\*Lorenzo Perez** is currently Deputy Director, Middle East and Central Asia Department (MCD), International Monetary Fund (staff member since 1978), in charge of overseeing the work of the Fund teams on Armenia, Azerbaijan, Egypt, and Kuwait, and of personnel and budgetary matters of the department. Prior to joining the MCD, he worked for many years for the IMF in Latin America, leading missions to Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Panama. Mr. Perez worked also in the US Treasury and the Agency for International Development in the 1970s. His professional areas of interest are macroeconomics, international economics, and transition economies. He has written several papers on Cuba for the volumes of ASCE conferences on public finance, governance, external debt, dollarization, and monetary policy. Mr. Perez received his PH.D. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1972, and in finance from the University of Florida in 1966.

**Marifeli Pérez-Stable** is vice president for democratic governance at the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, D.C. Her column on Latin American issues appears every other Thursday in the Miami Herald. Her opinion pieces have also appeared in El País, the Financial Times, La Vanguardia, El Clarín, Excelsior, El Nuevo Herald, and The Nation. She is likewise an editorial contributor to the Real Instituto Elcano, Infolatam, and Nueva Mayoría. She authored *The Cuban Revolution: Origins, Course, and Legacy* (Oxford University Press, 1993, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1999) which is under revision for a third edition. She is the editor of *Looking Forward: Comparative Perspectives on Cuba's Transition* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2007). In 2001-2003, she chaired the task force on Memory, Truth, and Justice which issued the report, *Cuban National Reconciliation* (<http://memoria.fiu.edu>). She is working on a monograph on U.S.-Cuban relations after 1989. Marifeli is a professor at Miami's Florida International University. She sits on the Institute of Cuban Studies' board of directors and on Encuentro's editorial board.

**Rafael Romeu** is currently an economist in the International Monetary Fund in the Western Hemisphere Department covering Venezuela, and previously has covered Uruguay, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Panama, as well as published research on financial and trade issues in the region. He has also worked in the International Capital Markets Department, and the Research Department of the IMF, and has held positions at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, and the Central Bank of Venezuela. He has been visiting faculty at the Department of Economics at Yale University, and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Kelsey Vidaillet** is currently completing her Masters degree in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, with a concentration in Cuban Studies, at Florida International University. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Madison with high honors in both her majors, Spanish and Latin American, Caribbean & Iberian Studies. Her undergraduate thesis was entitled "Literacy, Censorship and Intellectual Freedom: The Independent Library Movement in Contemporary Cuba" and her Masters thesis examines whether or not Fulgencio Batista's March 1952 coup d'etat fits into political science theories on what leads to coups and regime collapse. She has been an active ASCE member since 2005 when she won the Undergraduate Student Prize for her paper "Violations of Freedom of the Press in Cuba: 1952-1969". Starting in Fall 2008, Kelsey will begin law school. Afterwards, she hopes to be able to incorporate her knowledge about and passion for Cuba into serving the legal needs of the Cuban people and all others affected by oppression.

\*Current member of ASCE's Board, 2006-08 period.