



19th Annual Conference

“CUBA IN A WORLD OF UNCERTAINTY”

July 30, 31- August 1, 2009

***THE HILTON MIAMI DOWNTOWN
1601 Biscayne Boulevard.
Miami, Florida***

**The Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies of the
University of Miami co-sponsors the conference and serves as its
Secretariat**

Cost: Pre-registration (Before July 18, 2009)
\$75 ASCE-Member \$150 Non-member

On-site registration
\$100 ASCE-Member \$175 Non-member

Friday Luncheon \$40 \$45 at the door

PROGRAM

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)

NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

THE MIAMI HILTON DOWNTOWN
1601 BISCAYNE BOULEVARD
MIAMI, FLORIDA

July 30-31 and August 1, 2009

Thursday, July 30

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**
(Symphony Foyer III)

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **OPENING PLENARY**
(Symphony Ballroom III)

Opening of Conference: **Jorge A. Sanguinety, President of ASCE**

1. Current Economic and Political Situation

Chair: Jorge A. Sanguinety, President of ASCE and DevTech Systems

Joaquín Pujol, IMF (retired)

Oscar Espinosa Chepe, Independent Economist, La Habana

Juan del Aguila, Emory University

Marifeli Pérez-Stable, Florida International University and Inter-American Dialogue

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)**

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION**
(Symphony Ballroom III)

2. Cuba-U.S. Relations

Chair: Andrés Oppenheimer

Carlos Saladrigas, Cuba Study Group, *“Creating an Enabling Transitional Environment in Cuba”*

Ambassador James Cason, Center for a Free Cuba, *“The Case against Unlimited Travel to Cuba as an Agent for Democratization”*

Maria C. Werlau, *“Promoting Reform in Cuba: A Bold U.S. Policy to Foster Multilateral Support”*

Dan Erikson, Inter-American Dialogue, *“The Cuba Wars: An Update”*

Discussants: Gary Maybarduk, Foreign Service Analytics; Alfred Cuzan, University of West Florida.

12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. LUNCH BREAK

**1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Premiere Screening 2009
Documentary *Under Cuban Skies*
(Symphony Ballroom I)
Light lunch (courtesy of Cuba Study Group)**

2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3. Current and Future Economic Reforms (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: Dan Erikson, Inter-American Dialogue

Rolando Castañeda, “*Why Raúl is Half Right but Completely Wrong*”

Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America, “*The Arduous Path for Political Liberalization in Cuba*”

Antonio Gayoso, “*The Art of Doing Nothing: Agricultural Policy Making in Cuba*”

Chris Baker, “*Financial Reforms and Small Entrepreneurs*”

Discussants: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired); Rafael Romeu, IMF

4. Labor Issues (Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Joaquín Otero, Otero Global Resources

John Thornton, de Campo & Thornton, “*The Curacao Dry Dock Case—A Case of Forced Labor*”

Joel Brito, International Group for Corporate Social Responsibility in Cuba, “*Update on Complaint to the International Labor Organization Regarding Violations by the Government of Cuba of the Forced Labor Convention*”

George Plinio Montalván, “*Corporate Social Responsibility in Practice: The Case of Cuba*”

Discussants: Gerald Becerra, ILA; Efrén Córdova; Tomás Bilbao, Cuba Study Group

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

5. The Global Financial and Economic Crisis (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: Carlos Quijano, World Bank (retired)

Luis R. Luis, “*Cuban External Finance and the Global Economic Crisis*”

Lorenzo Pérez, “*The Potential Impact of the Global Economic and Financial Crisis on Cuba*”

Rafael Romeu and Andrew Wolfe, International Monetary Fund, “*Caribbean Tourism, OECD Recession, and Three Degrees of Unrestricted Travel*”

Roger Betancourt, “*Democracy’s Dimensions and Cuba’s Development in the Aftermath of the Global Financial Crisis*”

Discussants: Ricardo Lago, FIU; Rolando Castañeda, IDB (retired)

6. Recovering Cuba's Looted Artwork (Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Alberto S. Bustamante, Herencia Cultural Cubana

Tania C. Mastrapa, Mastrapa Consultants, "*Identifying and Locating Looted Art from Cuba*"

Mari-Claudia Jimenez, J.D., Herrick Feinstein, LLP, "*Legal Alternatives for Cuban Art Restitution*"

Antonio de la Guardia, Tresart, "*Vetting Artworks*"

Discussant: Ray Zamora, Art Collector and Dealer

6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. WELCOMING RECEPTION (Tenor Room)

Friday, July 31

**8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST
(Symphony Foyer III)**

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

7. Measuring Cuban GDP/Consumption (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland

John Devereux, Queens College/Graduate Center CUNY, "*The Road not Taken: Pre-Revolutionary Cuban Living Standards in Comparative Perspective*"

Luis Locay, University of Miami, "*Cuba's Socioeconomic Indicators Before the Revolution*"

John Devereux, Queens College/Graduate Center CUNY, and Luis Locay, University of Miami, "*An Alternative Consumption Estimate for Cuba in the Communist Period*"

Jorge Pérez-López and Carmelo Mesa-Lago, "*Cuba's GDP Statistics Under the Special Period: Discontinuities, Obfuscation, and Puzzles*"

Discussants: Roberto Orro; Mario A. González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York

8. Legal Issues (Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Gustavo Arnavat

Matías Travieso-Díaz, Partner, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP, "*Lifting the Cuban Embargo: The New Labors of Hercules*"

Larry Catá Backer and Augusto I. Molina, Pennsylvania State University, "*Globalizing Cuba: ALBA and the Construction of Socialist Trade Systems*"

Michael Strauss, Centre d'Etudes Diplomatiques et Stratégiques, Paris, France, "*Perspectives on the Future of Guantanamo Bay*"

Discussant: Stephen Kimmerling, Office of the President, The New School; José Pallí, World Wide Title; Manuel Supervielle, Navigant Consulting, Inc.

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

10:30 a.m. – 12:15 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9. Agriculture and Sugar (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: José Alvarez, University of Florida

G.B. Hagelberg, “*Cuban Agriculture: The Return of the Campesinado*”

Willard Radell, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, “*Economic Logic in Cuba’s 2002 Sugar Industry Re-structuring?*”

Juan Tomás Sánchez, “*Inputs for an Efficient Cuban Agriculture: Sugar Cane, Rice, Beans and Corn Production*”

Discussants: Felipe Manteiga; José Alvarez; Antonio Gayoso

10. Student Papers (Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America

Silvia Dreher, University of Basel, Switzerland, “*Monetary Policy in Cuba*”

Brenden M. Carbonell, University of Pennsylvania Law School, “*Cuban Corporatism: Batista’s Three-Year Plan and a Nation Betrayed*”

John Barrios, Cornell University, “*Operation Truth Revisited: An In-Depth Review of Fidel Castro’s First Trip to the United States*”

Karen Kajder, University of Miami, “*Conceptual Design of a Wastewater Treatment Plant for the Municipality of Cotorro, Province of Havana, Cuba*”

Discussants: María Dolores Espino, St. Thomas University; others TBA

12:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. OFFICIAL ASCE LUNCHEON (Concerto Ballroom A)

Announcement of Student Awards

Keynote Speaker: Tom Gjelten, "The Bacardi Story and Cuba's Future"

Gjelten is correspondent on economic, intelligence, and national security issues for National Public Radio. Author of *Bacardi and the Long Fight for Cuba: The Biography of a Cause* (Viking, 2008)

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

11. Investment, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Policy (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: Nicolás Sánchez, College of the Holy Cross

Eric Baklanoff, University of Alabama, “*A Bountiful Legacy: U.S. Investment in Cuba During the 1950s*”

Roberto Orro, “*Petrolism in Cuba and Implications of U.S. Investment in the Cuban Oil Sector*”

Joseph Scarpaci, Virginia Military Institute, “*Fifteen Years of Entrepreneurship in Cuba: Challenges and Opportunities*”

Andrew Wolfe and Gabriel Di Bella, IMF, “*Challenges for Economic Measurement and Policies in a Bimonetary Economy*”

Discussants: Maria Werlau; Juan Belt, USAID

12. Social and Economic Issues (Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Ambassador Mauricio Solaún, University of Illinois

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh, “*Fifty Years of Revolution in Cuba: Economic-Social Balance*”

Pete Martinez, The Quantum Group, “*A Profile of Cuba’s Controversial Healthcare System*”

Elaine Scheye, The Scheye Group Ltd., “*The World Economic Crisis and its Impact on Cuba’s Healthcare and Biotechnology Sector*”

Rolando Castañeda, “*La Ayuda Económica de Venezuela a Cuba*”

Discussants: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired); Sergio Díaz-Briquets; Juan Calvo, U.S.-Venezuelan Chamber of Commerce

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

4:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

13. Island-Diaspora Interactions (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: Ricardo Puerta

Manuel Orozco, Inter-American Dialogue, “The Cuban Condition: Migration, Remittances and Its Diaspora”

Joaquín Pérez, Campol Group, “*El Futuro de las Remesas en Cuba*”

Mario A. González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York, “*Review of ASCE’s Contribution to the Literature on Remittances to Cuba: 1991-2008*”

Discussants: Felipe Manteiga; Jorge Pérez-López

14. Narcotics and Migration in the Caribbean: The Cuban Problem

(Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Gary H. Maybarduk, Foreign Service Analytics

Capt. Peter J. Brown, 7th Coast Guard District (Caribbean), “*Narcotics and Illegal Immigration: The Current Situation*”

Randy Beardsworth, Catalyst Partners, former Assistant Secretary for Strategic Plans and Acting Undersecretary for Border and Transportation Security, Department of Homeland Security, “*The Importance of Growing Functional Relationships with Cuba*”

Gary H. Maybarduk, Foreign Service Analytics, former Counselor for Political and Economic Affairs, US Interests Section Havana, “*Can Cuba Avoid Becoming a Narco-State?*”

Discussant: Dan Erikson, Inter-American Dialogue

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. ASCE BUSINESS MEETING (Concerto Ballroom D)

President’s Report, Jorge A. Sanguinetty

Secretary’s Report, Lorenzo Perez

Treasurer’s Report, Dan Erikson

Followed by presentation by **José Alvarez** of the book ***Frank País: Architect of Cuba’s Betrayed Revolution*** (Boca Raton: Universal Publishers, 2009).

Saturday, August 1

**8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST
(Symphony Foyer III)**

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

15. The Effects of Disasters in Cuba (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: René Costales, IDB (retired)

William Messina, University of Florida, “*Cuban Agriculture and the Impacts of Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike*”

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, “*The Deepening Housing Crisis: The Impact of Hurricanes*”

José Luis Batista Silva, Instituto de Geografía Tropical, Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente, “*Magnitud y Frecuencia de los Ciclones más Dañosos para Cuba durante la Temporada del 2008*”

B.E. Aguirre, University of Delaware, “*Cuba’s Emergency Management and the Need for a Holistic Interpretation of Risk*”

Discussants: Alnunfo Carrandi; Joseph Scarpaci, Virginia Military Institute

16. Infrastructure: Water/Wastewater/ Transportation (Concerto Ballroom D)

Co-Chairs: Ramon Ferrer, President, Association of Cuban Engineers, and Pedro Giralt, Immediate Past President, Cuban American Association of Civil Engineers

Jorge Rodriguez Ruiz, Consultant, former Executive President of Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA), “*Privatization or Self-Strengthening for the Water Sector in Cuba? Lessons from the Water Sector in Puerto Rico*”

Armando I. Perez, Camp Dresser & McKee Inc.; Roberto Cardona, Wolfberg Alvarez; Luis Locay, University of Miami; and Helena Solo-Gabriele, University of Miami, “*Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Priorities for Cuba with Emphasis on Havana, Including Some Benefit-Cost Considerations*”

Sergio Alfonso, Jr. P.E., Executive Vice President, Marlin Engineering, Inc. and Carlos A. Penin, P.E., Principal, C.A.P. Engineering, Inc., “*Transportation Infrastructure in a Free Cuba: How to Meet Demands in a Challenging Economic Environment*”

Discussants: Joanna Gutierrez, SouthCOM; others TBA

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK (Symphony Foyer III)

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

17. Society and Politics (Concerto Ballroom C)

Chair: Gerardo Martínez-Solanas, Participatory Democracy Cultural Initiative, Inc.

Dagoberto Valdés, Revista Convivencia, Pinar del Río, Cuba, “*Sin Solidaridad no hay Libertad*” (presented by Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan)

Berta Mexidor, Bibliotecas Independientes Inc. and Latin American Network for Democracy, “*El Papel de las Bibliotecas Independientes en la Incipiente Sociedad Civil Cubana*”

Simone Grant, University at Albany, “*Cuban Civil Society Revisited: An Examination of the Theory and Reality*”

Discussant: Soren Triff, University of Massachusetts/Bristol Community College; Mary Speck, independent consultant; Maria Aristigueta, University of Delaware

18. The Electric Power Sector in Cuba: Coping with a Changing World

(Concerto Ballroom D)

Chair: Juan A. B. Belt, USAID

Adam Chambers, International Resources Group, “*Modeling the Power Sector of Cuba: Potential for Lower Costs and Lower Emissions*”

Discussant: Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland

Manuel Cereijo, University of Miami, “*The Power Sector: Coping with Natural Disasters*”

Ronald Soligo and Amy Myers Jaffe, Rice University, “*Energy Balances and the Potential for Biofuels in Cuba*”

Discussant: Jorge Sanguinety, Dev Tech Systems

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