



18th Annual Conference

August 5-7, 2008

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

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

Cost: Pre-registration (Before July 20, 2008)
\$75 ASCE-Member \$150 Non-member

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

Friday Luncheon \$40 \$45 at the door

**Preliminary Program (Draft-July 14, 2008)
(final program will be available at the registration)**

Tuesday, August 5

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. OPENING PLENARY

**Opening of Conference: Armando S. Linde, President of ASCE
Honoring Armando Lago--María C. Werlau**

1. Current Economic and Political Situation

Chair: Jorge Sanguinety, DevTech Systems
Joaquín Pujol, IMF (ret.)
Oscar Espinosa Chepe, independent economist, La Habana
Frank Mora, National War College, National Defense University
Gary Maybarduk, U.S. State Department, retired

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. PLENARY SESSION

2. Monetary Duality: Issues and Challenges

Chair: Armando S. Linde, IMF
Ed Canler, “Pesos, Poverty, and Perversion”
Antonio Morales-Pita, “Cómo y cuándo eliminar la doble moneda en Cuba”
Roberto Orro, “The Cuban Dual Monetary System and Challenges Ahead”
Andy Wolfe and Gabriel Di Bella, IMF, “A Primer on Currency Unification and Exchange Rate Policy”
Discussants: Rolando Castañeda, IDB (ret.); Ernesto Hernández-Catá, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University

12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. LUNCH BREAK

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

3. Claims/Property Issues

Chair: Oscar Echevarria
Presenter: Michael J. Kelly and Richard Witmar, Creighton University School of Law, “Report on the Resolution of Outstanding Property Claims Between Cuba and the United States”
Discussants: Tania Mastrapa, Mastrapa Consultants; Rodolfo Carrandi, IDB (ret.); Gary Maybarduk; Juan Tomás Sánchez.

4. Blogs in Cuba

Organized by Ted Henken, Baruck College, CUNY. Papers and discussants TBA

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

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

5. Economic Topics

Chair: Carlos Quijano, World Bank (ret.)

Juan Belt and Jorge Sanguinety, “Cuba’s Potential Fiscal Gap during a Transition”

Larry Catá Backer, School of Law, Pennsylvania State University, “Cuba and the Development of Odious Debt Doctrine”

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, SAIS, “A Brief Comparative History of Gross Domestic Production in ‘Revolutionary’ Cuba”

Luis Locay, University of Miami, and Rodolfo González, San José State University, “The Impact of the Cuban Revolution on Cuba’s Health Outcomes”

Discussants: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF; Ricardo V. Lago, EBRD (ret.), FIU

6. Tourism

Chair: TBA

María Dolores Espino, St. Thomas University, “The Tourism Sector: An Update”

Terry Maris, Ohio Northern University, “Cuban Tourism: The China Factor”

Alberto Bustamante, “La empresa privada en función de protección patrimonial: El proyecto de ‘Los Paradores de Cuba’”.

Discussants: Nicolas Crespo; Rafael Romeu, IMF

6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. WELCOME RECEPTION

Guest Speaker: Alberto Muller, author and syndicated columnist

Slide Presentation: “Cuba at a Crossroads: Religion and Society” by Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan

Wednesday, August 6

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

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

7. External Sector Issues I

Chair: Gustavo Arnavat

Jorge Pérez-López, “Cuba’s Foreign Trade: Becoming More Invisible”

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, “Remittances to Cuba: An Update”

Lorenzo Pérez, “Cuba: Financial Relations with the rest of the World”

Discussants: Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College; Luis R. Luis

8. Student Panel

Chair: Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America

Papers and discussants to be announced.

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

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

9. External Sector Issues II

Chair: Terry Maris, Ohio Northern University

Adrian Hearn, The University of Technology Sydney, “Cuba-China Commercial and Investment Relations”

José Azel, University of Miami, “Cuban Americans and Foreign Direct Investments in Post-Castro Cuba: ‘An Ace in the Hole’”

Eudel Cepero, “The Dirty Side of Moa Nickel: A Critical View from Space”

Discussants: Maria Werlau, Orbis Consulting; Sergio Diaz-Briquets

10. Legal Issues

Chair: José Manuel Pallí, Esq.

Yulexys Solis, “La Constitución cubana. Su aplicación y el control de constitucionalidad de las leyes”

Ricardo Pelegrín, “Nuevas regulaciones en Cuba 2008. Su aplicación y eficacia en el ordenamiento jurídico cubano actual”

Pablo de Cuba, “Inversión extranjera y sistema económico en la Cuba de hoy”

Discussant: Stephen Kimmerling, Esq.

12:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. ASCE LUNCHEON

Announcement of Student Awards

Keynote Speaker: Mary Anastasia O’Grady, member Editorial Board, *The Wall Street Journal*

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

11. Improvement of Relations between Cuba and the United States—Sociopolitical Issues

Chair: Geni Gómez, Freddie Mac

Benigno Aguirre, University of Delaware, “Political Exile, Transnationality, and the Racialized Cuban”

Alejandro Armengol, El Nuevo Herald, title to be announced

Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, “The Transition: The View from the Island’s Generations”

Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America, “Comparative Analysis of National Reconciliations in Developing Countries”

Carlos Saladrigas, Cuba Study Group, title to be announced

Discussants: Ricardo Puerta, Private Consultant; Rolando Castañeda, IDB (ret.); René Costales, IDB (ret.)

12. Agriculture

Organized by William Messina, University of Florida. Paper presenters and discussants TBA.

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. COFFEE BREAK

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

13. Education in Cuba

(Joint Panel with the National Association of Cuban-American Educators, NACAE)

Chair: Federico R. Justiniani, M.D., NACAE President, Professor of Medicine, Mount Sinai Medical Center, University of Miami.

Graciella Cruz-Taura, Florida Atlantic University, “Revolution and Continuity in the History of Education in Cuba”

Andy S. Gómez, Assistant Provost and Senior Fellow, Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, University of Miami, “Plans for the Future of Education in a Free Cuba”

Discussant: Eduardo Zayas-Bazán, Emeritus Professor, East Tennessee State University

14. Improvement of Relations between Cuba and the United States—Political Economy Issues

Chair: Alejandro Armengol, *El Nuevo Herald*

Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, and Scott Larson, CUNY, “Survey of Cuban Remittances Forwarding Agencies (RFs) in the United States: Preliminary Findings”

Ricardo Puerta, Private Consultant, “Migración y Remesas en Honduras: Posibles Lecciones para Cuba”

Rolando Castañeda, Inter-American Development Bank (ret.), “Cuba y los Estados Unidos: el potencial de una integración económica mutuamente beneficiosa”

Carlos Pleyán, Agencia Suiza para el Desarrollo y la Cooperación, “Habana-Miami, una frontera líquida”

Discussants : Ricardo Puerta, Private Consultant; Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College ; René Costales, IDB (ret.) ; Geni Gómez, Freddie Mac ; Carlos Pleyán, COSUDE

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. ASCE BUSINESS MEETING

President’s Report, Armando S. Linde

Secretary’s Report, Lorenzo Perez

Treasurer’s Report, Dan Erikson

Book Presentation: *Principio y Fin del Mito Fidelista* (Victoria, BC, Canada: Trafford Publishing, 2008) by José Alvarez

Thursday, August 7

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

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

15. Transition Issues

Chair: Alfredo Cuzan, University of West Florida

G.B. Hagelberg and José Alvarez , "Cuba's Economic Culture and the Reform Process"

Roger R. Betancourt, University of Maryland and Development Research Center, and

Jorge A. Sanguinety, Devtech Systems and Development Research Center, "Is There Political Will Towards Democratization in Cuba?"

Jorge Luis Romeu, "Design for Six Sigma in the Charting of a Cuban Transition"

Discussants: Armando S. Linde; Marifeli Perez-Stable, Florida International University

16. Special Topics

Chair: Uva de Aragón, Florida International University

Lucas Llanso Puente, University of Georgia, "The Benefits of Cuban-American Trade"

Claudio Rodriguez-Vazquez, "Cuba: Merging of Politics and Economic Issues after 106 Years of Republic and Dictatorship"

Michele DeSando, University of California, Santa Barbara, "Aesthetics and Citizenship: Women and Cultural Policy in Cuba "

Discussants: Uva de Aragón, Florida International University; Antonio Gayoso, Thunderbird University

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

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

17. Infrastructure: Power and Water/Wastewater Sectors

Chair: Teo Babún

Manuel Cereijo, University of Miami, "Cuban Power Sector: Present Situation"

Juan A.B. Belt, USAID, "Energy Sector in Cuba: Financial and Economic Considerations"

Armando Pérez. Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers (C-AACE) and Helena Solo-Gabriele, Association of Cuban Engineers (ACE), "Water and Sanitation Issues in Cuba: A Status Report on Research"

Discussants: Jorge Piñón, University of Miami; María Porrata, Marlin Engineering

18. Political and Military Issues

Chair: Mauricio Solaún, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana

Armando Mastrapa, "Democratic Policing and Public Security in Post-Castroism Cuba"

Dan Erikson and Paul Wander, Inter-American Dialog, "Raúl Castro and Cuba's New Diplomacy"

Eusebio Mujal-León and Lorena Buzón, Georgetown University, "Exceptionalism and Beyond: The Case of Civil-Military Relations in Cuba"

Discussants: Enrique Pumar, Catholic University; Andy S. Gomez, University of Miami

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