

ASCE 2015



Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting: *“Cuba – What’s Next?”*

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MIAMI JULY 30TH –
AUGUST 1ST
Miami Hilton Downtown Hotel

ASCE's Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting "Cuba – What's Next?"

July 30 - August 1, 2015
The Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
1601 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida 33132



ASCE gratefully acknowledges The Christopher Reynolds Foundation for providing us with generous funding over the past four years to support the conference attendance of Cuban scholars resident on the island adding to the richness, diversity, and fruitful exchange and collaboration between us.



Note: Presentations will be in English unless the title of the session or paper is in Spanish



As the fifteenth president of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy and at the start of our 25th annual conference, “Cuba - What’s Next?” marking our 25th anniversary, I am proud to welcome you to Miami!



Despite ASCE’s long-standing commitment over the last quarter century to rigorously study and analyze “Cuba in Transition” (the name of our annual compendium of conference proceedings) over the last quarter century, the 12 months since our last conference have proven to be filled with unprecedented challenges and exciting new opportunities for the Cuban economy given the momentous decision by the governments of the United States and Cuba to reestablish diplomatic relations, first announced to the world on December 17, 2014, and culminating in the opening of embassies in our respective capitals just 10 days ago!

Given such developments, we believe that the work we do in the Association is more necessary and relevant than ever. Thus, you can count on ASCE (and *you* its members) to be at the forefront of well reasoned, uniquely informed, and in-depth analysis at this key moment of the island’s history.

Sincerely,

Carlos Seigle
President, Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy

PS: Be sure to follow us on Twitter at @ASCECuba, “friend” us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ascecuba.org>, check out our past conference videos on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/ascecuba>, and browse past volumes of *Cuba in Transition* at our newly redesigned website: <http://www.ascecuba.org/>



8:00AM - 9:00AM | Concerto Foyer A/B

Registration and Breakfast



9:00AM - 10:45AM | Concerto Ballroom A/B

Opening Plenary

1. Conference Opening: Current Economic and Political Situation

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, ASCE President

Marc Frank, Havana Correspondent, Reuters, The Financial Times and ABC News

Alexis Jardines, Florida International University

Vegard Bye, University of Oslo, Center for Development and the Environment

Emilio Morales, The Havana Consulting Group



10:45AM - 11:00AM | Concerto Foyer A/B

Coffee Break



11:00AM - 12:45PM | Concerto Ballroom A

2. Economic Realm of Restoration of Cuba-U.S. Relations

Chair: Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems

Ernesto Hernández-Catá, IMF (retired), The Foundry, Inc., "Preparing for a Full Restoration of Relations Between Cuba and the United States"

Luis R. Luis, "Economic Consequences of Cuba-US Reconciliation"

Miriam Celaya González, *14ymedio*, "Relaciones Cuba-EE.UU: ¿razones para el optimismo?"

José Luis Perelló, Universidad de la Habana, "El sector privado y el turismo en Cuba ante un escenario de relaciones con Estados Unidos"

Discussants: Ted A. Henken, Armando Linde (invited)



11:00AM - 12:45PM | Concerto Ballroom B

3. Is Cuba a Threat to U.S. and Hemispheric Security?

Moderator: Ambassador Otto Reich, Reich & Associates

Ana Quintana, Heritage Foundation, "Cuba: Continuing security concerns"

TBA, Expert in Cuban counterintelligence, "Cuba's work against the United States"

Maria Werlau, Cuba Archive/Free Society Project, "Cuba as safe haven for fugitives: a pending security issue"

José Azel, ICCAS, University of Miami, "Developing business ties with Cuba: practical and security implications"

Discussant: Jaime Suchlicki, ICCAS, University of Miami



12:45PM - 2:15PM | Concerto Ballroom C

Lunch Break



2:30PM - 4:15PM | Concerto Ballroom A



4. Cuban Economic Reforms: Status and Prospects

Chair: Oscar Echevarría, GlobalExpand

Nicole M. Castater, Barry University, "Cuba Through the Looking Glass: A Study of Reform with Mirror Data"

William A. Messina, Jr., University of Florida, "Cuban Agriculture after the Party Congress: What's Next? Who's Next? Fooled Again?"

Osmar Laffita Rojas, periodista independiente, "La actualización del modelo económico no es sinónimo de reforma"

Discussants: Gary Maybarduk (Castater); **Antonio Gayoso** (Messina and Laffita)

2:30PM - 4:15PM | Concerto Ballroom B



5. Las relaciones económicas de Cuba en el contexto hemisférico

Moderador y Comentarista: César Vidal, Escritor, abogado, periodista

Enrique García, consultor en seguridad e inteligencia, "Factores atípicos de las relaciones internacionales económicas de Cuba: el rol de los servicios cubanos de inteligencia"

Ernesto Akerman, empresario/Independent Venezuelan-American Citizens (IVAC), "Relaciones Económicas Cuba-Venezuela, realidad y expectativas"

Maria Werlau, Cuba Archive/Free Society Project, "Peculiaridades en la comercialización de productos de salud y biotecnología de Cuba"

Carlos Sánchez Berzaín, Interamerican Institute for Democracy, "Relaciones económicas de Cuba-socialismo del siglo 21"

Comentarista: Beatrice Rangel, AMLA Consulting

4:15PM - 4:30PM | Concerto Foyer A/B



Coffee Break

4:30PM - 6:00PM | Concerto Ballroom A



6. Cuba's Emerging Private Economy

Chair: Ramón Barquín III, Barquin Group

Carlos Fernández-Aballí, Cuban Entrepreneur and President of Cooperativa Industrias Purita, "New Entrepreneurship in Cuba: The Non Agricultural Cooperative "Industrias Purita" Case Study"

Rolando Sánchez, University of the Incarnate Word, "Assessing the Need for Entrepreneurial Education to Promote Sustainable Development in Cuba"

Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, CUNY, "Entrepreneurial Wealth Creation in Post-Socialist Economies: Relevant Experiences and Lessons for Cuba"

Roberto González Peralo, Universidad de Matanzas, "La heterogeneidad de los sujetos económicos en la comercialización de productos agropecuarios: Impacto en el funcionamiento del mercado cubano"

Discussants: Arch Ritter, Carleton University; **Christopher Baker**.

4:30PM - 6:00PM | Concerto Ballroom B



7. Considerations about the Cuban Revolution

Chair: Michael J. Strauss, Centre d'Etudes Diplomatiques et Stratégiques, Paris

Enrique Pumar, Catholic University of America, "When Reforms Are Not: A Critical View of Current Developments in Cuba"

Luis Martínez Fernández, University of Central Florida, "Seven Threads in the Labyrinth of the Cuban Revolution"

Jorge Sanguinety, DevTech Systems, "La economía política del embargo o bloqueo interno"

Discussants: Jorge Duany, Florida International University; others TBA

6:15PM - 9:00PM | Concerto Ballroom C



ASCE WELCOMING RECEPTION

Speakers: **Miriam Leiva**, independent journalist

Michelle Caruso-Cabrera, global business correspondent, CNBC (invited)

8:00AM - 8:30AM | Concerto Foyer A/B

Registration and Breakfast

8:30AM - 10:15PM | Concerto Ballroom A

8. Legal Framework for U.S.-Cuba Foreign Trade and Investment*Chair: Jorge Esquirol***José Gabilondo**, Florida International University, "Establishing Ground Rules for Political Risk Claims about Cuba"**Matías Travieso-Díaz**, "Cuban Expropriation Claims: A Very Modest Proposal"**Rolando Anillo**, "US-Cuba BIT: A Guarantee in Reestablishing Trade Relations"**Pedro Freyre**, Ackerman Group, "The Hard-Wired Aspects of the U.S. Embargo"**Discussants: Antonio Zamora** (Gabilondo, Anillo); **Jose Manuel Pallí** (Travieso-Díaz, Freyre)

8:30AM - 10:15PM | Concerto Ballroom B

9. Comparison of Cuba and North Korea in Transition

Panel sponsored by the Korea Institute for National Unification, KINU

*Chair: Dr. Jinwook Choi, President of KINU***Jung-Chul Lee**, Soongsil University, Korea, "A Lesson from Cuba's Party-Military Relations and a Tale of "Two Fronts Line" in North Korea"**Young-Ja Park**, KINU, "Hybrid Economy in Cuba and North Korea"**Wootae Lee**, KINU, "Historical Progress of the U.S.-Cuba Relationship: Implication for the U.S.-North Korea Case"**Discussants: Dr. Kyung-hwa Lee**, Soongsil University, Korea (Wootae Lee); **Larry Catá Backer**, Pennsylvania State University (Jung-Chul Lee and Young-Ja Park)

10:15AM - 10:30AM | Concerto Foyer A/B

Coffee Break

10:30AM - 12:15PM | Concerto Ballroom A

10. Economic Topics*Chair: Carlos Quijano, World Bank (retired)***Ernesto Hernández-Catá**, IMF (retired), The Foundry, Inc., "Estimating Hidden Unemployment in Cuba"**Carlos Seiglie**, Rutgers University, "An Economics Primer for Cuban Policymakers"**Archibald R. M. Ritter**, Carleton University, "Alternative Institutional Futures for Cuba's Mixed Economy"**Discussants: Paul Meo**, World Bank (retired); **Nick Sánchez**, College of the Holy Cross (retired)

10:30AM - 12:15PM | Concerto Ballroom B

11. La política en Cuba: cambios, reflexiones e impactos*Moderador: Armando Chaguaceda, Universidad de Guanajuato, México***Armando Chaguaceda**, Universidad de Guanajuato, México, y Lázaro J. González, Universidad Iberoamericana, México, "Las ciencias políticas en Cuba: apuntes sobre su estado actual e incidencia pública"**Aimel Ríos Wong**, National Endowment for Democracy, "Cuba 2018: escenarios de reforma política"**María Isabel Puerta**, Universidad de Carabobo, Venezuela, "Cuba y Venezuela: entre la transición democrática y la deriva autoritaria"**Guennady Rodríguez**, Somos +, "Creatividad para la política"**Comentarista: Ted Henken**, Baruch College, CUNY

12:30PM - 2:30PM | Concerto Ballroom C

ASCE LUNCHEON**Invited Speaker: Roberta Jacobson**, Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Department of State

12:45PM - 4:15PM | Concerto Ballroom A

**12. International Economic Topics***Chair: Helena Solo-Gabriele, University of Miami***Jorge Perez-Lopez**, U.S. Department of Labor (retired), "Foreign Investment in Cuba's Updating of its Economic Model"**Larry Catá Backer**, "Global Corporate Social Responsibility (GCSR) Standards With Cuban Characteristics: What Normalization Means for Transnational Enterprise Activity in Cuba"**Jorge Piñón**, University of Texas at Austin, "Cuba's Petroleum Conundrum: Its Dependency on Imported Oil"**Discussants: Bryan Roberts**, *Econometrica*; **Luis R. Luis**

12:45PM - 4:15PM | Concerto Ballroom B

**13. Student Papers**

4:15PM - 4:30PM | Concerto Foyer A/B

**Coffee Break**

4:30PM - 6:00PM | Concerto Ballroom A

**14. What Can Cuba's Past Tell Us About the Island Going Forward***Chair: Luis Martínez Fernández, University of Central Florida***Ilan Ehrlich**, Bergen Community College, "Eduardo Chibás: The Incurable Man of Cuban Politics"**Jesse Horst**, University of Pittsburgh, "Factories of Men: Modernism as Culture of Poverty in the Globalizing Post-War, 1945-1963"**Discussant: Roger Betancourt**, University of Maryland; **Mauricio Font**, City University of New York

4:30PM - 6:00PM | Concerto Ballroom B

**15. Panel Discussion: Cuba 2.0: How the Digital Revolution is Remaking (and Remixing) the Cuban Revolution***Organizers: Larry Press, California State University, Dominguez Hills and Ted A. Henken, Baruch College, CUNY*

Focus: Despite being one of the least connected countries in the Western Hemisphere, in recent years Cuba has witnessed a veritable revolution in the creative use of a variety of new digital technologies to access, produce, share, distribute, archive, and commercialize digital data. Given recent Cuban government declarations about its intention to expand access to the Internet together with President Obama's new policy that explicitly allows U.S. telecom and Internet companies to more easily provide communications equipment and services to Cubans, this panel convenes a group of analysts who will jointly discuss the emerging opportunities and continued challenges in the world of "Cuba 2.0."

Panelists: **Ted A. Henken**; **Larry Press**; **Jesús Martínez**, Communications Director, Cuban Ministry of Transportation; **Óscar Visiedo**, Albizu University and Former Director of CEINAI; **Carlos Alberto Pérez**, Blogger, La Chiringa de Cuba and Administrator, La Joven Club de Computación; **Ellery Biddle**, Global Voices (invited).

6:00PM - 8:00PM | Concerto Ballroom C

**ASCE BUSINESS MEETING**

8:00AM - 8:30AM | Concerto Foyer A/B



Registration and Breakfast

9:00AM - 10:45PM | Concerto Ballroom A



16. Demography & Environmental Issues

Chair: Stephen Kimmerling

Bryan W. Roberts, *Econometrica*, "Demographic Change in Post-Communist Countries: Theoretical and Empirical Analysis and Implications for Cuba"

Sergio Díaz-Briquets, *NTS Consulting*, "Measures to Deal with an Aging Population: International Experiences and Lessons for Cuba"

Dana J. Graef, "The Characteristics and Future Prospects of Cuban Environmentalism"

Mauricio Font, *City University of New York*, "Patterns of Spatial Differences in Cuba"

Discussant: Luis Locay, *University of Miami*; **René Costales**, *Inter-American Development Bank* (retired)

9:00AM - 10:45PM | Concerto Ballroom B



17. Special Topics

Chair: Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, CUNY

Zoila Barreiro de Romeu y Jorge Luis Romeu, "Impacto Social y Educacional de los Programas de Solidaridad y Entrenamiento Pedagógico del Proyecto Juárez-Lincoln-Martí en América" *Latina*"

Juan Tomás Sánchez, "Los Once Millones de Abajo, o la Reforma del Estado"

Reinaldo Cosano Alén, *periodista independiente, Agencia Sindical Press*, "Cuentapropismo y economía de bonsái"

Discussant: Joisy García Martínez, *Club Anarcocapitalista de Cuba*; **Miriam Leiva**, *independent journalist*

10:45AM - 11:00AM | Concerto Foyer A/B



Coffee Break

11:00AM - 12:45PM | Concerto Ballroom A



18. El trabajo de Cuba con el mundo académico y la intelectualidad en Estados Unidos

Moderador y comentarista: Carlos Alberto Montaner, autor y periodista.

Orlando Brito, *ex-oficial del MININT*, "Los servicios de inteligencia cubana y el sector académico en Estados Unidos"

Julio Schiling, *político, Patria de Martí*, "La influencia de Cuba en la academia estadounidense"

Rodolfo Stusser, *M.D., Médico, investigador y ex-profesor universitario*, "El intercambio académico Cuba- Estados Unidos: una experiencia personal"

Comentarista: Luis Domínguez, *experto en seguridad, webmaster CubaalDescubierto.com.*

11:00AM - 12:45PM | Concerto Ballroom B



19. Cultural Issues

Chair: Ilan Ehrlich, Bergen Community College

Soren Triff, "Internet portrayals of Cuban progressive intellectuals and the emerging cultural industry"

Yvon Grenier, "Free or not Free? The Small Heresies of Leonardo Padura"

Rosendo Romero, "Cuba y la economía de la cultura: Problemáticas y perspectivas"

Discussants: Orlando Luis Pardo, *Brown University*; **Enrique Pumar**, *Catholic University of America*



ASCE Mission Statement

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) is a non-profit, non-political organization incorporated in the state of Maryland in 1990.

Our mission is to promote research, publications, and scholarly discussion on the Cuban economy in its broadest sense, including on the social, economic, legal, and environmental aspects of a transition to a free market economy and a democratic society in Cuba. ASCE is committed to a civil discussion of all points of view.

Affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Allied Social Sciences Association of the United States, ASCE maintains professional contacts with economists inside Cuba —whether independent or associated with the Cuban government— who are interested in engaging in scholarly discussion and research.

ASCE Board of Directors

A Board of Directors, elected by the membership for a two-year period, meets monthly. Its officers, who reside in different cities of the United States, serve in a pro-bono, voluntary capacity. Since ASCE's inception, Board positions have been occupied by individuals from academia, government service, law firms, multilateral organizations and business enterprises.

Period: 2014–2016

The ASCE Board of Directors is elected by its members for a two-year period. Board members, who reside in different U.S. cities, serve pro-bono.

- Carlos Seiglie, President
 - Ted A. Henken, President, Ex-Officio
 - Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Treasurer
 - Helena Solo–Gabriele, Secretary
-
- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
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| • Mario González Corzo | • Steven J. Kimmerling |
| • Gary Maybarduk | • Archibald R. M. Ritter |
| • Rafael Romeu | • Maria Werlau |

Main Committee Chairs

- ASCE Annual Conference and Proceedings: Jorge Pérez-López
- ASCE Student Prize Competition: Enrique Pumar
- ASCE Media and News Clippings: Joaquín Pujol
- ASCE Webpage and Newsletter: Carlos Seiglie and Ted Henken
- ASCE Conference Logistics: Mario González-Corzo
- ASCE Travel Fund Logistics: Ted A. Henken and María Werlau
- ASCE Fundraising: Ted A. Henken and Rafael Romeu



ASCE Past Presidents

- Felipe Pazos †
- Roger Betancourt
- Jorge F. Pérez-López
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The Christopher Reynolds Foundation

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Following the normalization of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Vietnam in 1995, the Foundation began to look at the parallels between the former embargo on Vietnam and current U.S. policy towards Cuba. It began to support work to strengthen contacts and understanding between citizens and Institutions in the U.S. and citizens and institutions in Cuba. This includes programs intended to complement the work of Cubans as they determine their future path in a variety of fields. The Foundation also supports programs intended to examine current U.S. policy toward Cuba and whether it best serves U.S. national interest.



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