**Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE)**

**2023 Annual Conference**

**Florida International University, Miami**

ASCE’s 2023 Annual Conference will be held on August 4-6 (Friday through Sunday) at the Law School of Florida International University (FIU) co-sponsored by FIU’s Cuban Research Institute. For registration go to ascecuba.org. This year program has important and relevant topics. There are sections on the current economic situation and prospects; external debt; other external issues; currency markets; agriculture; food availability and cost of living; immigration; governance and legal issues; social vulnerability; and Cuba-Venezuela relations among others.

The Carlos-Diaz Alejandro Lecture will be given by Dr. Bryan Roberts of the Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies of the University of Southern California: Three Decades of Transition in Poland and Potential Insights for Cuba. The Ernesto Betancourt Luncheon lecture will be given by Professor Alan Dye, Barnard college, Columbia University: Unraveling Reciprocity: Reflections on the History of Cuban-trade Cooperation

**Draft Program as of June 30, 2023—Preliminary and Subject to Change**

**FRIDAY AUGUST 4**

**8:30 am – 9:15 am REGISTRATION**

**9:15 am - 11:00 am PLENARY**

**Welcoming/Opening Remarks**

Shlomi Dinar, Dean, School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University

Luis Locay, University of Miami, ASCE President

**1 Current Economic Situation and Prospects**

Chair: Luis Locay, University of Miami

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Emeritus Professor, University of Pittsburgh, “The Cuban Economy in 2021-2022 and Prospects for 2023”

Comments by Ricardo Torres Pérez, American University; Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cuba

**11:00 am – 11:15 am COFFEE BREAK**

**11:15 am – 12:45 pm SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**2a Political/Governance Issues**

Chair: TBA

Jorge Domínguez, Harvard University (retired), "Cuba's March 2023 National Assembly Election: When Everyone Wins, Who Performs Best and Who Performs Worst?"

Armando Chaguaceda, El Colegio de Veracruz y Raudiel Peña Barrios, El Colegio de México, “Cuba: El régimen político y la transición incierta. Nociones revisitadas y la transición incierta”

Discussant: José Jasán Nieves Cárdenas, editor, El Toque

**2.b Cuba’s External Debt**

Chair: Luis R. Luis

Carmen Reinhart, Kennedy School, Harvard University, “Sovereign Debt Restructuring in Emerging Markets: Challenges Ahead”

Natalia Delgado, Cuba Capacity Building Project at Columbia Law School, "Decision of the High Court of the UK on Cuban Debt: What Comes Next"

Abelardo Curdumi, 5th Street Advisors, "Using External Debt as Currency"

Discussant: Lorenzo Pérez, IMF (retired)

**12:45 pm – 1:45 pm LUNCH BREAK**

**1:45 pm – 3:15 pm SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**3a El impacto de la Tarea Ordenamiento en la consolidación de un patrón de vulnerabilidad social en Cuba: análisis y propuestas sobre cuidados y calidad de vida en la vejez**

Moderador: Dagoberto Valdés, Director del Centro de Estudios Convivencia

Panelistas:

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Profesor Emérito, Universidad de Pittsburgh

Claudia González Marrero, Food Monitor Program

Elaine Acosta González, CUIDO60

Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos, Centro de Estudios de la Economía Cubana, Cuba

**3b Currency Markets**

Chair: Joaquín Pujol, IMF (retired)

Luis R. Luis, “The Structure of the Parallel Foreign Exchange Market in Cuba”

Pavel Vidal Alejandro, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia, Carlos E. Muñiz Cuza, Aalborg University, Denmark, and Abraham Calás Torres, El Toque, “An Independent Measurement of Cuba’s Parallel Exchange Rate” **(zoom only)**

Discussant: Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems

**3:15 pm – 3:30 pm COFFEE BREAK**

**3:30 pm – 4:45 pm PLENARY**

**4 Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture**

Chair: Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University

Bryan Roberts, Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies, University of Southern California, "Three Decades of Transition in Poland and Potential Insights for Cuba"

**ASCE RECEPTION**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 5**

**8:30 am – 9:00 am REGISTRATION**

**9 am – 10:30 am SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**5a Cuban Transnationalism**

Chair: TBD

Juan Carlos Albizu-Campos Espiñeira and Sergio Díaz-Briquets, “Cuba and Its Emigration: Exit as Voice”

Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan, “Transnational Engagements Among Cuban Immigrants and the Island: Economic, Political, and Social Challenges”

Discussant: René Costales, IDB (retired)

**5b** **Cuba: Desmontaje de la “justicia social”: Repercusión sociopolítica**

Moderador: Juan Antonio Blanco, Asociación Cuba Siglo 21, España

Panelistas:

Alina B. López Hernández, Cuba, “Desmontaje de la justicia socialista cubana. Repercusión socio-política”

Mauricio de Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia, “Crisis estructural y política económica y social en el ‘post-ordenamiento’ cubano”

Emilio Morales Dopico, The Havana Consulting Group, EEUU, "Cuba: crisis de gobernanza y futuro incierto"

**10:30 am – 10:45 am COFFEE BREAK**

**10:45 am – 12:15 pm SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**6a Book Forum**

Chair: Luis Locay, University of Miami, ASCE President

Presentation by Carmelo Mesa-Lago of his forthcoming book, *Comparative Policy and Performance of Two Socialist Economic Models: Cuba’s Central Plan and China-Vietnam’s Socialist Market*

Comments by Begard Vye, Chr. Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway; Mauricio de Miranda Parrondo, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, Colombia

**6b Non-Sugar Agriculture**

Chair: Felipe Manteiga, USAID (retired)

Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York (CUNY), Tomás Depestre Manso, and Olimpia Gómez Consuegra, “Factores que inciden sobre la producción de tomate en Cuba. Resultado de una encuesta luego del análisis de tendencias”

Alonso Expósito, “El Actual Sistema Agrario Cubano y su Regresión a la Cultura Aborigen de la Yuca”

Anicia García Alvarez, Universidad de la Habana, “El sector agropecuario: clave para el desarrollo de Cuba

Discussant: TBA

**12:15 pm – 2:15 pm PLENARY**

**Ernesto Betancourt Lecture**

Introduction: Luis Locay, ASCE President

Luncheon Speaker: Alan Dye, Barnard College, Columbia University, "Unraveling Reciprocity: Reflections on the History of Cuban-US Trade Cooperation"

**2:15 pm – 3:45 pm SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**7a Transition Issues**

Chair: Armando Linde, IMF (retired)

Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University, "A Blueprint for an Economic Transition in Cuba: The Final Hours to Adopt"

Vadim Grishin, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University and George Washington University, “Are Russian Style Reforms Possible in Cuba?”

Discussants: Gary Maybarduk, U.S. Department of State (retired); Manuel Santos, University of Miami

**7b Contemporary Immigration Issues**

Chair: Sergio Díaz-Briquets

Bryan Roberts, Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies, University of Southern California, and Malgorzata Zachara-Szymańska, Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University, Poland, "Polish Immigration Policies: A New Model for Migration Management?"

Luis Locay, University of Miami, “Where are Recent Cuban and Venezuelan Immigrants Ending Up?”

Discussant: Roger Betancourt, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland

**3:45 pm – 4:00 pm COFFEE BREAK**

**4:00 pm - 5:30 pm SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**8a Economic/Legal Topics**

Chair: Natalia Delgado, Cuba Capacity Building Project at Columbia Law School (invited)

Juan Emigdio García Cuza, “Panorama social y político de los derechos constitucionales económicos en Cuba”

Adrian Ganic, Graduate Student, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), “Ideology and the Political Effects of Remittances: An Examination of the Survival of Cuban Authoritarianism, 1991–2019”

Discussant: Amelia Rodríguez Cala; Emilio Morales (invited)

**8b External Sector Issues**

Chair: Mario González-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York (CUNY) (invited)

Sergio Díaz-Briquets and Jorge Pérez-López, “Cuban Tourism after the Pandemic: Slow Recovery, Hotel Expansion and Pressure on Resources”

Abogada Diana Yuditxa Bautista Martinez, Studio Legale Diana Bautista, Milan, Italy, “¿Rescatar la inversión extranjera? La economía y sistema jurídico cubano es la como Torre de Pisa”

María C. Werlau, Free Society Project/Cuba Archive, “Cuba-China: A Post Cold-War Marriage in Context”

Discussant: TBA

**5:45 pm – 6:45 pm**

**ASCE Business Meeting**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 6 -- DAY 3**

**9:00 am – 10:30 am SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS**

**9a Venezuela-Cuba Economic Relations**

Chair: Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland

Jorge Piñón, University of Texas at Austin, “Venezuela: The End of Cuba’s Life-Line?”

Rafael Romeu and José Pineda, DevTech Systems, “Cooperation between Venezuela and Cuba: Assessment and Prospects”

Discussant: Hugo Faria, School of Business, University of Miami (Invited)

**9b Perspectives on Sugar**

Chair: Alan Dye, Barnard College, Columbia University

Ana Vera Estrada, Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello, Facultad de Comunicación, Universidad de la Habana, “Diálogo virtual en tiempos de post reestructuración”

Federico Sulroca, Profesor e Investigador, INICA, “La producción de caña de azúcar en Cuba y su futuro”

Discussant: Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan

**10:30 am – 10:45 am COFFEE BREAK**

**10:45 am – 12:30 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**10a Labor Rights in the Emerging Cuban Private Sector**

Chair: Ted Henken, Baruch College, City University of New York

Panelists: William Bello, Programa Oasis, CubaEmprende

Eloy Viera Cañive, legal expert with El Toque

Camilo Condis, Cuban entrepreneur

**10b Food Availability and Cost of Living**

Chair: Nicolás Sánchez, Professor Emeritus, College of the Holy Cross

William Messina, University of Florida, “Cuba's Food Situation: Domestic Production Patterns and Import Dependency"

Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, Cuba. “Costo de la Vida en Cuba”

Discussant: Ricardo Torres Pérez, American University