

11 August 2020

Cuba From the Castros to COVID: ***An ASCE Virtual Conference***

August 13-15, 2020

August 13, 10.15 am – 10.30 am

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

ASCE President (2018-2020) *Silvia Pedraza*, University of Michigan

August 13, 10.30 a.m. – Noon

1. The Cuban Economy and Prospects After COVID-19

Chair: *Silvia Pedraza*, University of Michigan

Larry Catá-Backer, Pennsylvania State University, and *Yuri Gonzalez Hernandez*, Cuban Lawyer, “Cuba’s Response to COVID-19 and the Consequences for Cuba of the Pandemic”

Ricardo Torres Pérez, Universidad de la Habana, “The Cuban economic puzzle after the pandemic”

Elías Amor Bravo, ESIC Business & Marketing School, Valencia, Spain Campus, “Cuba: Return to Communist Normalcy After COVID-19”

August 13, 2.30 pm – 4 pm

2. The Cuba-Venezuela Economic Relationship

Chair: *Gary Maybarduk*, U.S. Department of State (retired)

Carmelo Mesa-Lago, University of Pittsburgh, “Adverse External Sector Impacts on the Cuban Economy”

Luis R. Luis, “Venezuelan-Cuban Mutual Aid: Grants, Subsidies and Fantasies”

Vadim Grishin, George Washington University, “Venezuela and Cuba: Inside a Perfect Storm of Sanctions, Corporate Politics and Changing Economic Policies”

August 14, 10.30 am - Noon

3. “Destrabando” the Cuban Economy: An Assessment of Reforms and the Road Ahead

Chair: *Natalia Delgado*, Columbia University

Jorge Pérez-López, U.S. Department of Labor (retired), "Raúl's Reforms: Progress and Pending Issues."

Pavel Vidal, Universidad Javeriana de Cali, Colombia, "The Great Lockdown and the Cuban Economy: First Impacts and Policy Responses"

Pedro Manuel Monreal Gonzalez, UNESCO, "Companies and the sequence of economic reform in Cuba."

August 14, 2.30 pm – 4 pm

4. Carlos Díaz Alejandro Lecture

Chair: *Carlos Seiglie*, Rutgers University

Distinguished Speaker:

Alejandro de la Fuente, Harvard University, "Racism with Equality? Measuring Racial Inequality in Cuba, 1980-2010"

Discussant:

Tanya K. Hernandez, Fordham University Law School

August 15, 10.30 am – Noon

5. Roundtable on Currency Developments

Chair: *Joaquín Pujol*, International Monetary Fund (retired)

Experts:

Roberto Orro, Caribbean Analysis Unit, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Pavel Vidal, Universidad Javeriana de Cali, Colombia

Omar Everleny Pérez Villanueva, Centro Cristiano de Reflexión y Diálogo, La Habana

Rafael Romeu, DevTech Systems

Lorenzo Pérez, International Monetary Fund (retired)

August 15, 2.30 pm – 4 pm

6. Student Panel

Chair: *Mario González-Corzo*, Lehman College, CUNY

Adriana Vitagliano, Oxford University, "Remittances and Protest: The Case of Cuba."

Denisse Delgado, University of Massachusetts, "The Cuban Diaspora's Participation in the Economic and Political Changes on the Island."

Isabelle DeSisto, Harvard University, "Atoms for Autonomy: Explaining the Cuban Reaction to the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident."

Discussants:

Enrique Pumar, Santa Clara University

Michael Strauss, Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies (Paris)

August 15 4.00 pm – 4.30 pm

CLOSING REMARKS

ASCE President (2020-2022) *Gary Maybarduk*, U.S. Department of State (retired)