

**ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF  
THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)**

***Newsletter, WINTER 2007***

**REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**CURRENT OFFICERS:**

**PRESIDENT:**

Armando S. Linde

**VICE-PRESIDENT:**

*Ernesto Hernández-Catá*

**SECRETARY:**

*Lorenzo Pérez*

**TREASURER:**

*Daniel P. Erikson*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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*Mario Gonzalez Corso*

*Ted Henken*

*Ricardo Lago*

*Stuart H. Lippe*

*Silvia Pedraza*

*Lorenzo Pérez*

*Jorge A. Sanguinety*

*Carlos Seiglie*

**FORMER PRESIDENTS:**

*Felipe Pazos*

*Roger Betancourt*

*Jorge F. Pérez-Lopez*

*Armando M. Lago*

*Antonio Gayoso*

*Lorenzo Pérez*

*Sergio Díaz-Briquets*

*Carlos N. Quijano*

*Beatriz C. Casals*

*Ernesto Hernández-Catá*

Colleagues:

Firstly, on behalf of the newly elected Board (see side bar), I would like to thank the members of the Nominating Committee: Roger Betancourt (chair), Carlos Montoulieu, and Steven Escobar; and the Tellers Committee: Carlos Montoulieu (chair), Ramón Barquín, and Rolando Castañeda for the efficient manner in which they conducted ASCE's biennial election.

The new Board has held monthly sessions following our highly successful annual meeting last August, and volunteers have come forward, giving unselfishly of their time for committee work (see Annex I).

Volume 16 of *Cuba in Transition* is at the printers and will soon be issued. The volume is already posted in ASCE's website. Together with the volume, members will receive a DVD copy of "*Policy Proposals for Economic Reform in Cuba: The First Year*" presented in Spanish by a group of ASCE members during the Saturday session of the annual meeting. Hundreds of these DVDs have been sent to Cuba, courtesy of Jorge and Mercy Sanguinety who financed the production and distribution of the DVDs. In November, Professor Eusebio Mujal of Georgetown University and ASCE jointly sponsored a panel discussion on the same topic, in Washington, DC.

In January, ASCE members participated in the ASCE session of the American Economic Association, chaired by Roger Betancourt (see Annex II). Plans are now being worked out with Universidad Antonio de Nebrija, Madrid to host a two-day seminar on Cuba transition issues in the Summer 2007. Carlos Quijano and Ricardo Lago are the leads in this undertaking. The Latin American Studies Association (LASA) is having its next conference in Montreal, Canada on September 6-8, 2007. Joaquin Pujol is organizing a panel of ASCE members.

ASCE's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and conference will take place on August 2-4, 2007 in Miami, Fl., at the Radisson Hotel on Biscayne Blvd. Miami Dade College has agreed to co-sponsor the conference, and the

**E-MAIL: [ASCE@ASCECUBA.ORG](mailto:ASCE@ASCECUBA.ORG)**

**P.O. BOX 28267 WASHINGTON, DC • 20038-8267**

University of Miami again will serve as the conference's secretariat and co-editor of its proceedings. **Please see Call for Papers in Annex III.**

The 2007 Graduate and Undergraduate Student Paper Competition has awarded more than \$5,000 in prizes during the last three years to students. This competition has been highly instrumental in generating interest on Cuban issues in academic circles. Winners are awarded cash prizes from \$200 to \$600, and are invited to present their essays at the Annual Meeting. All students who enter the competition receive a complimentary one-year membership in ASCE. Last year's competition attracted twenty papers from university students in the United States, the United Kingdom, Mexico, and Spain. For details, see Annex IV.

In other developments, the Board approved, for the first time in five years, an increase in membership fees, aligning these fees more closely to those in other academic organizations. Effective July 1, 2007 the regular membership fee is set at \$75 (\$60 currently); fees for sponsors are set at \$125 (\$100); and at \$300 (\$250) for Benefactors. The student fee remains at \$20.

ASCE's financial statement for end-December 2006 appears in Annex V.

In case you have not renewed your membership, please take a moment and mail the membership form and fees (see Annex VI). We would very much like to send you Volume 16 of "*Cuba in Transition*" and the DVD of the presentation referred to above.

For a progress report on ASCE's various activities and preparations for the August conference, look for the Spring Newsletter in early April.

Armando Linde

**ANNEX 1. ASCE COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS**

**Cuba Studies Working Group:** Enrique Pumar (chair), Mario Gonzalez-Corzo, Silvia Pedraza, and Ernesto Hernandez-Cata, working with Carlos Padiel who generously offered to finance the project, have prepared a report on options for scholarships or other mechanisms to promote Cuba studies. Modalities for granting the scholarships are now being developed.

**Jorge Perez-Lopez Student Prize Committee:** Enrique Pumar (chair), Jose Alvarez, Ted Henken, Joseph Scarpaci, Maria Dolores Espino, Beningno Aguirre, and Alfredo Cuzan.

**ASCE Padiel-Ramirez Corria Privatization Prize Competition:** Matias Travieso-Diaz, (chair), William Trumbull, Luis R. Luis, Luis Locay, and Alberto Luzarraga.

**Fund-Raising Committee:** Jorge Sanguinety (chair), Dan Erikson, Mario Gonzalez-Corzo, Ernesto Hernandez-Cata, and Antonio Gayoso.

**Nominating Committing:** Roger Betancourt (chair), Carlos Montoulieu, and Steven Escobar.

**Election Teller Committee:** Carlos Montoulieu (chair), Ramon Barquin, and Rolando Castaneda.

**Annual Meeting Program Coordinator, and Editor of “Cuba in Transition” :** Jorge Perez-Lopez.

**Annual Meeting Organizers:** Joaquin Pujol, and Juan Carlos Espinosa.

**News clipping Service:** Ernesto Betancourt.

**American Economic Association ASCE Session Coordinator:** Luis Locay.

**Latin America Studies Association ASCE Session Coordinator:** Joaquin Pujol.

**Carlos Diaz-Alejandro Lectures Coordinator:** Carlos Quijano.

**ANNEX II. American Economic Association ASCE Session, January 5, 2007, Chicago**

**The Cuban Economy**

**Presiding:** Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland

Mario A. Gonzalez-Corzo, Lehman College, City University of New York, and Scott Larson Graduate Center, City University of New York--“Cuba’s Unique Remittance Landscape: A Comparative Perspective”

Ernesto Hernandez-Cata, Johns Hopkins University--“A Theory of Transition: The Case of the Former Soviet Union

Carlos Seiglie, Rutgers University-Newark—“Socioeconomic Differences between the Races in Cuba and Their Implications for a Transition”

**Discussants:** Jorge Sanguinety, DevTech Systems, Inc.

Luis Locay, University of Miami

Bryan Roberts, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

**ANNEX III. CALL FOR PAPERS AND PANELS**

**ASCE's SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING  
MIAMI, FLORIDA, AUGUST 2-4, 2007  
RADISSON HOTEL, BISCAYNE BLVD**

**The Transition: What to Do and What to Avoid**

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) will be holding its Seventeenth Annual Meeting in Miami, Florida, on August 2-4, 2007. ASCE invites papers on subjects related to the Cuban Economy and society, including macroeconomics; banking and finance; agriculture and the sugar industry; tourism; social and political aspects of economic development; education; health; environmental policy; law and legal institutions; civil society; gender issues; governance; infrastructure; and civil-military relations.

In light of recent events and the possibility of policy changes in Cuba, the main theme for the coming year's meeting will be a review of the main lessons from the experience of transition economies: what conclusions to draw, what paths to follow, and what pitfalls to avoid.

Papers dealing with this subject, in its various manifestations, would be particularly welcome.

Proposals for panels, roundtables or individual papers should be sent to:

**Jorge Perez-Lopez**, Chair, Program Committee  
5881 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Falls Church, VA 22041  
jperezlopez@cox.Net

**Detailed abstracts should be sent no later than March 15, 2007.** Persons interested in serving as discussants, session chairs or participants in roundtable discussion should also communicate with the Chair of the Program Committee.

**Papers for the Annual Meeting should be distributed to the discussants and session chairs by June 30, 2007.**

ANNEX IV.

# 2007 GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD COMPETITION

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The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) is a nonpolitical, professional international association dedicated to the study of the Cuban economy in its broader political, social, and cultural context.

## The Jorge Pérez-López Student Award Competition

ASCE Student Award Committee is accepting nominations for the 2007 Jorge Pérez-López Student Award Competition. Anyone can nominate original papers authored by undergraduate and graduate students in good standing. The papers should address topics related to Cuba's domestic issues, its foreign relations, or Cuba in comparative perspectives. At a minimum, papers are expected to outline a thesis statement and present evidence or data supporting it. All nominations ranging from 15-20 pages or 5000 words must follow one of the standard academic writing and citations styles. Self-nominations are also welcomed. All correspondences must be accompanied by a letter stating the name, school affiliation, mailing address, phone number, and email of the nominee as well as a brief statement describing the merits of the nomination.

## Graduate Awards

- ✚ **First prize** \$600, up to \$400 travel, and publication in *Cuba in Transition*.
- ✚ **Second prize** \$300

## Undergraduate Awards

- ✚ **First prize** \$300, up to \$400 travel, and publication in *Cuba in Transition*.
- ✚ **Second prize** \$200.

All students who enter the competition will receive a one year complimentary membership in ASCE, which will entitle them to receive our publications and newsletter. If they wish to attend the annual meeting in Miami, they will also receive a complimentary conference and key speaker luncheon invitation (but no travel allowance, except to the first prize winners).

## Deadline

Papers received or postdated by **May 20, 2007** will be considered. The winner of the competition will be announced in June.

## Basis for Award

A panel of scholars on the basis of relevance, originality, quality, contribution, and clarity of presentation will judge papers. The 15-20 pages or 5000 words limit for the essay will be **STRICTLY ENFORCED**.

**Submission and Information** Please send a hard copy of the manuscript via regular mail and an electronic MS Word attachment of the paper to:

Dr. Enrique S. Pumar,  
Chair 2007 Student Award Committee  
The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy  
P.O. Box 28267  
Washington, DC 20038-8267  
ASCE@ASCECUBA.ORG

## **Annex V. Financial Statement**

### **Financial Report December 1-31, 2006**

**Current Account:**

Beginning balance ..... \$14,536.09

Ending balance ..... \$14,629.09

**Savings account:**

Balance, end-December .....\$8,753.71

**Total bank balance, end-December 2006.....** \$23,382.80

**Checks Outstanding** ..... 1,350.00

**Net accrual position as of**

**Board Meeting January 9, 2007** .....\$22,032.00

Revenue to end of fiscal year (proj.) 4,000

Membership Drive 800

Grants 2,000

Book sales 1,200

Pending payments and other expenses: 8,250

16<sup>th</sup> Conference proceedings, Vol. 16

(editing, layout, printing, and postage)

Budget \$8,500 6,400

Storage (budget \$1734, paid) -0-

Student prizes (budget 2,200, paid) -0-

Accounting services (budget \$1,800) 900

Miscellaneous (postage, mailing material,

Telecommunications, other) 950

**Overall balance (accrual) 17,782**

**Reserves (savings account--end December 2006) 8,754**

**Available cash \$9,028**



Pre-Registration Form

**Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy**

XVII Annual Conference - August 2-4, 2007

Radisson Miami Hotel

1601 Biscayne Blvd. Miami, Florida

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

	<u>ASCE Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
Pre-registration (*)	\$75.00 /__ /	\$ 150.00 /__ /
Luncheon	\$40.00 /__ /	\$ 40.00 /__ /

(Limited capacity. Reserve early)

*Membership renewal (Indicate one) (\*\*)*

- |                  |                                |       |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| A) Regular       | \$75 in USA - \$85 outside USA | /__ / |
| B) Sponsor       | \$120 to \$300                 | /__ / |
| C) Institutional | \$120 or more                  | /__ / |
| D) Benefactor    | Above \$300                    | /__ / |
| E) Student       | \$20 in USA; \$30 outside USA  | /__ / |

Total enclosed.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check to "ASCE" and send registration form to:  
ASCE, P.O. Box 28267 Washington, DC 20038-8267

Check Box /\_\_ / if you wish to receive the 17<sup>th</sup> Volume of "Cuba in Transition" with the proceedings of the conference in hard copy. Current and past issues of "Cuba in Transition" are available in ASCE's website <www.ASCECUBA.ORG>

(\*) Pre-registration fee must be postmarked not later than July 20, 2007; otherwise late registration fees will apply to both the Conference (\$100 for Members and \$175 for Non-Members, and the Official Lunch (\$45).

Rooms are available at the Radisson Hotel at a discounted rate of \$102 daily plus 13% tax for participants to the conference. 24-hour valet-parking is available at \$20 daily.

(\*\*) ASCE's membership runs July 1-June 30. To obtain ASCE members registration rate, dues for 2007-2008 must be paid before the meeting.

For questions about registration contact: Dan Erikson, ASCE Treasurer  
([asce@ascecuba.org](mailto:asce@ascecuba.org)) or Joaquin Pujol ([jppujol342@aol.com](mailto:jppujol342@aol.com))

/over/

The Radisson Miami Hotel ( [www.radisson-miami.com](http://www.radisson-miami.com) ) located on 1601 Biscayne Blvd N.E. in downtown Miami, facing Biscayne Bay, is offering a room group discount of \$ 102.00 per night (plus 13% tax) from August 1 thru 4 for those attending the ASCE Conference. The hotel also offers a reduced 24-hour valet parking rate of \$20. Nearby (walking distance) amenities include the new Carnival Center for Performing Arts; Miami-Dade Cultural Center; Gusman Center for the Performing Arts; and Bayside Market Place  
**RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL NO LATER THAN JULY 18, 2007 AT**  
**1(888) 201 1718 or 1 (305) 374 0000 Fax: 1 (305) 714 3811**  
*Metromover: Omni Station – Free (one block to hotel)*

**ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)**

**Application for Membership**

**(Please use pre-registration form to renew membership)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail (\*) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

*Membership Type (Indicate one) (\*\*)*

- |                        |                                |     |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| A) Regular             | \$75 in USA - \$85 outside USA | / / |
| B) Sponsor (***)       | \$120 to \$300                 | / / |
| C) Institutional (***) | \$120 or more                  | / / |
| D) Benefactor (***)    | Over \$300                     | / / |
| E) Student             | \$20 in USA-\$30 outside USA   | / / |

Total enclosed.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Make check to "ASCE"

Send registration to: ASCE, P.O. Box 28267 Washington, DC 20038-8267

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 (\*) News Clippings and Newsletters are only sent to the e-mail address submitted. Please make sure your coordinates are written clearly. Members receive the Proceedings Publication corresponding to the year of Membership.

(\*\*) ASCE's membership runs July 1-June 30. To obtain the ASCE member rate to our XVII Annual Conference, dues for 2007-2008 must be paid before the start of the conference.

(\*\*\*) Names are listed in the Volume containing the Proceedings of the XVII Conference.

ASCE is a non-profit corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501 (a) (2) organization and thus donations and gifts are deductible for tax purposes.

ASCE does not share membership information with anybody.

For questions about registration contact: Dan Erikson, ASCE Treasurer  
[asce@ascecuba.org](mailto:asce@ascecuba.org)

