



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

**Newsletter**

**December 30, 2004**

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Dear ASCE members:

The purpose of this newsletter is to apprise you of several important forthcoming activities of our Association. These are: (1) the ASCE section at the Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on January 7-9, 2005; (2) the next in the series of Cuba Forums to be held at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. on January 13, 2005; and (3) the Sixth Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture to be hosted by the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. on March 7, 2005.

This letter also provides details on the date and venue of ASCE's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (August 4-6, at Miami-Dade College in Miami, Florida), and requests proposals for panels, roundtables, and individual papers from persons who wish to participate in the conference.

The President, Ernesto Hernández-Catá, and the Board of Directors of ASCE wish all of you and your families a healthy, restful, and productive New Year.

Armando S. Linde  
Treasurer

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**I. Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association  
ASCE Section  
Philadelphia, PA  
January 7-9, 2005**

The AEA Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 7-9 in Philadelphia, PA at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel Downtown. You may wish to visit the AEA Website <[www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA)> for details on registration and accommodations.

ASCE members will be presenting the following papers at the AEA conference:

“Markets, Institutions, and Economic Performance” by Roger Betancourt, University of Maryland;

“Institutions to Accompany the Market in Cuba’s Future Transition” by Ernesto Hernández-Catá, Johns Hopkins University; and

“Declining Growth in Centrally Planned Economies with an Application to Cuba” by Luis Locay and Claustre Bajona, University of Miami.

**II. Third Cuba Forum  
Brookings Institution  
Washington, DC  
January 13, 2005**

The Third Cuba Forum will take place on January 13<sup>th</sup> at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. Entitled “Cuba 2005: International Dimensions of Continuity and Change”, the panel will feature a presentation by the Spanish Ambassador to the United States, Carlos Westendorp y Cabeza, who will speak about the challenges of Cuban foreign policy in the coming year. Other panelists include Daniel Erickson from the Inter-American Dialogue, Damián Fernández from the Cuban Research Institute at Florida International University, Jorge Pérez-López from ASCE, and Kevin Whitaker from the US State Department.

The Forum brings experts on Cuba and U.S.-Cuba relations to the nation’s capital to provide policymakers, academic, diplomats, intelligence officials, media, and the community in general information on key policy issues, aspects of contemporary Cuban life, and considerations for the islands future transition.

**III. Sixth Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture  
Inter-American Development Bank  
Washington, DC  
March 7, 2005**

The Sixth Carlos Díaz-Alejandro Lecture will take place at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, DC on March 7th. Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, the Under-Secretary General of the United Nations for Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC), and former Secretary General of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and Finance Minister of Colombia, will be the lecturer. Mr. Ocampo's recent work included an excellent essay on Latin America's Growth and Equity during the 1990's in the Spring 2004 Journal of Economic Perspectives. Mr. Ocampo will be introduced by IaDB President Enrique Iglesias.

**IV. ASCE's Fifteenth Annual Meeting  
Miami-Dade College, Wolfson Mitchell Campus  
August 4-6, 2005**

**Call for Papers**

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy will hold its Fifteenth Annual meeting at the superb facilities of Miami-Dade College, Wolfson Mitchell Campus, 300 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida, on August 4-6, 2005. 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.

Proposals for panels, roundtables, or individual papers should be sent to the address below as soon as possible, with more detail abstracts by March 1, 2005

**Jorge Pérez-López  
Chair, Program Committee  
5881 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Falls Church, VA 22041**

**[jperezlopez@cox.net](mailto:jperezlopez@cox.net)**

**or**

**[annual.conference@ascecuba.org](mailto:annual.conference@ascecuba.org)**

Persons interested in serving as discussants, session chairs or participants in roundtable discussions 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, 2005.