



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY (ASCE)

P.O. Box 28267 • Washington, DC • 20038-8267

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NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 5, 2010

Message from the ASCE president:

On behalf of ASCE Board of Directors, I am pleased to distribute this newsletter to members and friends. The newsletter contains information about ASCE activities, the forthcoming ASCE elections, call for papers for the Twentieth Annual Meeting and for the student competition, and a change in ASCE fees. After a number of years of not increasing ASCE fees, the Board of ASCE approved an increase in fees to meet its rising operating costs. The Board discussed the membership and conference fees at great length in order to ensure that the need to raise fees to cover rising costs was considered along with an equitable distribution of the expenses.

Jorge Sanguinetty

Recent and Forthcoming ASCE Activities:

The ASCE panel at the 2010 Annual Convention of the Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) took place on January 3, 2010 in Atlanta, GA.

Arthur M. Diamond, Jr. (University of Nebraska-Omaha) presided over the panel dedicated to the Cuban Economy. The papers presented were: (1) Carmelo Mesa-Lago's Economic and Social Balance of 50 Years of Cuban Revolution (University of Pittsburgh), presented by Luis Locay, discussed by Arthur Diamond; (2) John Devereux and Luis Locay's The Absolution of History: Cuban Living Standards After Fifty Years of Revolutionary Rule (Queens College and Graduate Center, City University of New York and University of Miami, respectively) presented by John Devereux, discussed by Andrew Wolfe; and (3) Andrew Wolfe and Gabriel Di Bella's Challenges for Economic Measurement and Policies in a Bimonetary Economy (both from the International Monetary Fund) presented by Andrew Wolf, discussed by Luis Locay.

Award to ASCE by the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers (CAACE) at the Annual Engineers Gala Banquet to be held on February 27th, 2010 at the Miami Airport Hilton Hotel

The Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers is presenting to ASCE the Special President's Award in recognition of its accomplishments, efforts and contribution to the Cuban Economy. This is an important honor for ASCE given that this is the second award that the CAACE has given during its existence of over forty years. The award will be accepted by Jorge Sanguinety (current ASCE President), Armando Linde (former President) and Joaquin Pujol.

ASCE Seminar at the Council of the Americas in New York City

ASCE will be presenting a breakfast seminar on Cuba's current situation, its tourist sector and its infrastructure on March 30, 2010 at the Council of the Americas between 8:30-10:00 AM. The Council of the Americas' address is 680 Park Avenue (at 68th St) New York, NY 10065. Maria Werlau, Teo Babun, Juan Belt, and Rafael Romeu will put together the presentation. This is part of ASCE outreach efforts outside Miami and ASCE members can attend at the discount rate of \$15. For upcoming details on the event and registration, go to <http://as.americas-society.org/calendar.php>

ASCE 2010 Elections

As previously announced in the November, 2009 newsletter, 2010 is an election year for ASCE. ASCE members will elect a new President and ten Board members. This new Board will lead the work of ASCE and serve from August 2010-July 2012. Complete details of the procedures were provided in the November, 2009 newsletter and ASCE members are reminded that they can present themselves as candidates to the presidency or to Board members but nominations have to be supported by five members of ASCE.

Nominations should be sent prior to **March 15, 2010** to:

ASCE Nomination Committee

C/o Roger Betancourt, Chair

3506 Saul Road

Kensington, MD 20895 or by email to Betancou@econ.umd.edu

Official Ballots will be sent to members in good standing by **April 15, 2010** and will need to be returned no later than **June 15, 2010**.

Call for Papers and Panels

**ASCE's Twentieth Annual Meeting
July 29 to July 31, 2010
The Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
Miami, Florida**

Cuba at the Crossroads in the 21st Century

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) will hold its Twentieth Annual Meeting in Miami, Florida, from July 29 to July 31, 2010. The main theme for the meeting will be "Cuba at the Crossroads in the 21st Century" focusing on Cuba's existing economic and social conditions, recent Cuban policies to address the impact of the world economic and financial crises, Cuban policy shortcomings, and needed structural reforms. Proposals for papers and/or panels on these subjects are welcome.

ASCE also invites paper and panel proposals 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. Preference will be given to proposals for papers and panels related to the main theme, but all proposals will be given consideration.

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

Jorge Perez-Lopez
Chair, Program Committee
5881 6th Street
Falls Church, VA 22041
jperezlopez@cox.net

Detailed abstracts of papers or descriptions of panels should be sent no later than April 15, 2010.

Individuals interested in serving as discussants, session chairs or participants in roundtable discussions should also indicate such interest to the Chair of the Program Committee.

Papers to be presented at Annual Meeting should be distributed to the discussants and session chairs by July 10, 2010.

Call for papers for the Student competition

The Jorge Pérez-López Student Award Competition

ASCE Student Award Committee is accepting nominations for the 2010 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. Papers received or postdated by May 20, 2010 will be considered. The winner of the competition will be announced in June.

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, 2010** 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 Student Award Committee

The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy

P.O. Box 28267

Washington, DC 20038-8267 and by email to asce@ascecuba.org

Change in ASCE Fees

The ASCE Board approved an increase in fees for ASCE membership renewals after July 1, 2010. For ASCE members who are current in their memberships until June 30, 2010, the new fees will only apply from the coming summer. The increase in fees has been necessary due to rising costs, particularly those associated with the meetings in Miami.

The new fees are as follows:

Membership categories:

Regular members (for both inside and outside the USA)	\$90
Contributors	More than \$90 and up to \$200
Sponsors	More than \$200 and up to \$350
Benefactors	Over \$350
Students (inside and outside the USA)	\$25
Lifetime membership	\$2,500

The institutional membership category was eliminated.

Annual Meeting (no change has been made except on the registration fee of non-members on-site):

Member (pre-registered)	\$75
Member (on-site)	\$100
Non-member (pre-registered)	\$175
Non-member (on-site)	\$200

Conference Lunch

Pre-registered	\$45
On site	\$50