

The Evolving of a New Economy, Science, and Society of Cuba: Challenges and Opportunities

Rutgers University and University of Havana
Collaboration Conference
November 10-15, 2019







Community Leadership Center
Camden

Community Leadership Center
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November 10, 2019

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to the Fourth Annual Conference of the Rutgers/University of Havana Collaboration – “The Evolving of a New Economy, Science and Society of Cuba: Challenges and Opportunities”. This year’s conference is hosted at the University of Havana and the Colegio de San Geronimo and coincides with the 500 Anniversary of Havana. We are pleased to join you in celebrating the relevance of this historical occasion, as we share in an exchange of ideas about the future of Cuba and its people.

The conference theme is timing as it brings international and national scholars that will be addressing the new realities, opportunities and challenges as we capitalized on the strengths of the Cuba Economy, Science and Society. The conference brings together the best academic leadership from both universities as they have been working together in a sustainable collaboration. Both Rutgers and University of Havana are best places for leveraging and encouraging this type of academic partnerships. As scholars, researchers and practitioners, we are all working to forge solutions and make new discoveries that will have broad impact in how we live, prosper and improve our countries, cities and societies to pave a better world for future generations. The economy, scientific advancement, and well-being of all people are all important factors for creating new paths towards an equitable and sustainable society.

Since the last time we gathered in New Jersey in 2018, our faculty have continued to forge partnerships and relationships with each other in joint research projects, conference and forums., student and academic exchanges and in building capacity for academic exchanges. From our Cuban partners, we have learned that even with great limitations and a very low per capita income, Cuba has managed to achieve a “very high Human Development” Index compared to other Latina American countries. Cuba’s social gains, excellent education and health systems are world renowned. But, the country also faces challenges from income stagnation and the need to build capacity to continue to compete at the local and global levels. This conference encourages exchanges of new ideas, solutions and best practices on how can we best continue to support each other. We are pleased to come together as members of a global society with a common interest to celebrate the 500 anniversary of Havana.

We want to thank our esteemed colleagues from the University of Havana and Rutgers University for their unwavering support of the conference and look forward to another successful gathering

Thank you again for coming and best wishes for a wonderful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gloria B. Santiago".

Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D.

Conference Chair and Board of Governors Distinguished Service
Professor in Public Policy and Administration



Robert L. Barchi, President

November 10, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

I am happy to offer warm greetings to all who are attending this week's conference on *The Evolving of a New Economy, Science, and Society of Cuba*, as we deepen the bonds of scholarship and friendship between Rutgers and our colleagues in Cuba's universities.

This relationship, established by the Memorandum of Understanding that the University of Havana and Rutgers–Camden signed seventeen years ago, was broadened in 2016 to include all of Rutgers University. Our efforts can strengthen communities in both countries as we bring our research discoveries to bear on the opportunities and challenges they face. I applaud the collaborations and critical scholarship that this annual conference is fostering, evidenced so well by the joint presentations being conducted this week.

Our guest speakers and panelists have my thanks for lending their insights to the discussion, and I wish all of you a rewarding conference.

Sincerely,

Robert Barchi



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Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
303 Cooper Street
Camden, New Jersey 08102-1519

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November 11, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our annual International Conference on Cuba. We are grateful to Rector Miriam Nicado Garcia and all of our friends at the University of Havana for hosting us.

A testament to a partnership years in the making, this conference brings together leading scholars and artists from the United States and Cuba to focus on the most pressing community development issues facing our nations. In bridging geographical and cultural divides, we celebrate what unites us – a passion and purpose to use our intellectual and social capital for the common good.

In 2002, Rutgers University–Camden and the University of Havana signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which has since resulted in collaborative faculty research projects and student fellowships and internships. Today, we enjoy a new era of intellectual exchange that benefits both of our nations.

More than ever, global learning is a prerequisite for student success, and international partnerships strengthen faculty research opportunities. Rutgers University–Camden is proud to have forged this relationship with the University of Havana, and we are excited by the many new possibilities that are emerging now that our union has expanded to include the impressive resources of all of Rutgers.

I thank Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor of Public Policy and Administration and director of the Community Leadership Center at Rutgers University–Camden, whose visionary leadership has made this partnership possible.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Phoebe A. Haddon".

Phoebe A. Haddon, J.D., LL.M.
Chancellor



Universidad de La Habana
Oficina de la Rectora

La Habana, 1 noviembre de 2019.

Estimados colegas y amigos:

Es un gran placer para la Universidad de La Habana, dar la bienvenida en nuestro país a los participantes de la 4ta Conferencia Anual de colaboración entre la Universidad de Rutgers-Camden y la Universidad de La Habana "Evolución de una Nueva Economía, Ciencia y Sociedad de Cuba: Desafíos y Oportunidades"

La presente conferencia anual da continuidad a proyectos de investigación conjunta que han permitido el desarrollo de acciones entre los profesores de ambas instituciones para desarrollar y enriquecer el conocimiento sobre temáticas compartidas para la colaboración: Desarrollo Comunitario y economía social, incluyendo las artes; las relaciones Cuba- Estados Unidos; ciencias técnicas y matemáticas (STEM), ciencias ambientales, marinas e informáticas; además del sector de la salud pública.

Como es conocido, en 2002 la Universidad Rutgers-Camden y la Universidad de La Habana firmaron un Memorando de Entendimiento para formalizar las oportunidades de investigación e intercambio para estudiantes y profesores.


Desde entonces, dicha relación ha florecido, dando como resultado proyectos de investigación colaborativa entre los profesores, becas para estudiantes de postgrado y pasantías, y visitas frecuentes a Cuba dirigidas por profesores y personal especializado. La colaboración con la Universidad de Rutgers es muy importante para la Universidad de La Habana, dado su historial y su prestigio internacional. Valoramos significativamente el interés de la Universidad de Rutgers en haber mantenido esta colaboración en todos los escenarios, incluidos los más adversos.

Durante los últimos años, tanto las conferencias anuales como las relaciones académicas se han expandido al campus de New Brunswick a través del Centro para el Avance Global y Asuntos Internacionales (GAIA), lo que permite oportunidades de investigación adicionales en ingeniería, medicina y ciencias biológicas.

Estoy segura de que esta IV Conferencia abrirá nuevas oportunidades para la colaboración en otras disciplinas y fortalecerá la relación y la amistad entre nuestras instituciones. Les deseo un gran éxito.

¡Bienvenidos a Cuba!

Fraternalmente


Dra. Miriam Nicado García
Rectora
Universidad de La Habana.



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The fourth annual conference of the Rutgers University/University of Havana Collaboration builds on the joint research, discussions, and development of projects between faculty at their respective universities to expand and enrich knowledge around the shared topics and themes of the collaboration: community development and entrepreneurship, including the arts; STEM fields, including environmental, marine, computer science; population health, law and constitutional issues.

Monday, November 11 | University of Havana

8:00 a.m.

Buses leave to take conference participants to the University of Havana

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Opening of the Conference and Welcome Remarks

University of Habana - Anfiteatro Varona

- Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D., *Rutgers Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor in Public Policy and Administration, Conference Chair*
- Miriam Nicado Garcia, Ph.D., *Rector, University of Havana*

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Opening Plenary Session: Universities as Anchors of Local Development

University of Habana - Anfiteatro Varona

Panelists:

- Miriam Nicado Garcia, Ph.D., *Rector, University of Havana*
- C. Luis Alberto Pichs Garcia, Ph.D., *Rector, University of the Medical Sciences of Havana*
- Michael Palis, Ph.D., *Provost, Rutgers–Camden*
- Brian Strom, M.D., *Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS)*
- David Lopez, *Co-Dean, Professor of Law and Professor Alfred Slocum Scholar, Rutgers–Newark*



10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Coffee break**
Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Plenary Session: A New Political Era: U.S. and Cuba Relations**
Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

This plenary session will address the ongoing political relationship between the United States and Cuba. Presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro, who succeeded his brother as Cuban leader in 2008, took some extraordinary steps to normalize bilateral relations, restoring full diplomatic ties, and easing travel restrictions. However, President Donald J. Trump has reversed some of his predecessor's policies, and some observers expect that his administration will only become more confrontational with Cuba. Panelists will discuss how does this new political era under President Trump impacts the hope for stabilization of relations between the two countries and what new reforms can be effective in addressing the challenges and tensions that result from the hardline approach of US policy towards Cuba. What does this mean for Cuba as a competitor in the larger global markets and for the world order?

Panelists:

- Charles Auffant, J.D., *Clinical Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School*
- Ernesto Domínguez Lopez, Ph.D., *Professor of History, University of Havana*
- Luís Rene Fernández Tabio, Ph.D., *Senior Researcher and Professor, Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies, University of Havana*
- Olga Rosa Gonzalez, Ph.D., *Deputy Director, Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies, University of Havana*
- Carlos Seiglie, Ph.D., *Professor of Economics, Rutgers-Newark*

Moderator:

- Raul Rodriguez Rodriguez, Ph.D., *Director, Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies, University of Havana*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch at University of Havana**
Edificio Varona

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **Workshop I: Digital and Internet Access**
Edificio Varona, Salon 290 Aniversario

Broadband and Internet connectivity continue to be a challenge for Cuban society, particularly in rural areas and when affected by natural disasters. This session presents new ideas for implementing technology in accessible, efficient, and affordable ways to allow Cubans to utilize digital tools and resources.

Panelists:

- Michael Palis, Ph.D., *Provost, Rutgers-Camden*
- Pedro Andres Urra González, Ph.D., *Fundador Infomed Cuba*

Moderator:

- Raul Guinovart Diaz, Ph.D., *Dean, School of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Havana*

Workshop II: Sustainable Local Community Development: Environment, Climate Change, and Resiliency in Society and the Economy

Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

This workshop introduces new and successful case studies of local community development that deal with the environment, climate change and resiliency. This session brings together multidisciplinary fields to discuss solutions, innovations, experiences, and successful case studies of environment, economic and local community development.

Panelists:

- Patricia Gonzalez Diaz, Ph.D., *Director of Center for Marine Research, University of Havana*
- Patricia Rodríguez, *Director of the Master Plan of Old Havana*
- Amy Savage, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor in Biology, Rutgers–Camden*
- Loiret Fernandez, Ph.D., *Professor on Plant Physiology at the University of Havana*

Moderator:

- Maria del Carmen Zabala, Ph.D., *Professor, FLACSO, University of Havana*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Coffee break | *Edificio Varona, Cafeteria*

3:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Honoris Causa Induction Ceremony | Followed by Opening Reception
University of Habana – Aula Magna | Edificio Varona, Courtyard

6:15 p.m.

Buses return to hotel

7:30 p.m.

Dinner at a local Paladar



Tuesday, November 12 | University of Havana

8:00 a.m.	Buses leave to take conference participants to the University of Havana
9:00 – 12:00 a.m.	Plenary Session
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	The Cuba and USA Health Systems: Local and Global Challenges and Opportunities (A Round Table Discussion) Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario <p>The Cuban health system continues to be a model for delivering accessible health care for all of its residents. This session presents structures and methods for how Cuba builds a network of health workers throughout the community to address the pressing population health need. This session will also present the USA model for addressing health challenges and disparities in the USA particularly in vulnerable communities</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vincent Silenzio, Ph.D., <i>Professor of Urban-Global Public Health in the Rutgers School of Public Health</i>• Pastor Castell-Florit Serrate, <i>Doctor in Science, Ph.D. and President of the National Council of Scientific Health Societies of Cuba</i>• C. Luis Alberto Pichs Garcia, Ph.D., <i>Rector, University of the Medical Sciences of Havana</i>• Vicente Gracias, MD, FACS, FCCP, FCCM, <i>Professor, Department of Surgery, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; Senior Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS); Vice President for Health Affairs, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey</i> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marie T. O'Toole, Ph.D., <i>Professor, Associate Dean Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden</i>
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Coffee break <i>Edificio Varona, Cafeteria</i>
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Open Dialogue, Questions and Recommendations on Health Care Models in Cuba and in the USA <i>Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario</i>
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch at the University of Havana <i>Edificio Varona, tables will be located along the corridors</i>
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Afternoon Workshop Sessions Workshop I: Material Science: Nano Sciences and Technology <i>Edificio Varona, Salon 290 Aniversario</i> <p>This session unites scholars in the STEM fields to discuss how to use natural resources and technology to solve health, environmental, and marine challenges that Cuba faces. Experts will share groundbreaking research to address innovative solutions that are cost-effective and widespread.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lissette Agüero Luztonó, Ph.D., <i>Doctor of Chemistry Sciences, BIOMAT Center, University of Havana</i>• Cristina Díaz López, Ph.D., <i>Distinguished Professor in Chemistry, University of Havana</i>

- Angelina Díaz Garcia, Ph.D., *Director of the Advance Studies Center, University of Havana*
- Jesús Rubayo-Soneira, Ph.D., *Professor of Nuclear Sciences and Technologies (FCTN), Superior Institute of Technology and Applied Sciences*
- David Salas-de la Cruz, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Rutgers–Camden*

Moderator:

- Luis Alberto Montero, Ph.D., *Professor of Chemistry, University of Havana*

Workshop II: Social Inequalities: Education, Policy, Civil Society, and Entrepreneurship

Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

Social inequalities in Cuban society continue to challenge the public sector and opportunities to grow a strong workforce that can sustain the emerging industries and economies. This session addresses how social policy can set the foundation for the education sector to prepare workers for the demands of a new economy in Cuba.

Panelists:

- Ida L. Castro, JD, MA., *Vice President for Community Engagement/Chief Diversity Officer at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine (Geisinger Commonwealth) Scranton Pennsylvania*
- Maria del Carmen Zabala, Ph.D., *Professor, FLACSO, University of Havana*
- Daybel Pañellas Alvarez, Ph.D., *Professor of Psychology, University of Havana*
- Ted A. Henken, Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Sociology, Baruch College (CUNY)*
- Camilo Condis, *Entrepreneur and Social Activist*
- Gilberto “Papito” Valladares Reina, *Artecorte Project*
- Victoria Chase, Esq., *Clinical Associate Professor, Rutgers School of Law – Camden*
- Sara Plummer, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Teaching, Rutgers School of Social Work*

Moderator:

- Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D., *Rutgers Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor in Public Policy and Administration*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Coffee break

Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Working Sessions, Networking, Art Exhibits and Poster Sessions

Salon 1 and Salon 290 Aniversario, Art Exhibits and Poster Sessions will be found along hallways and vestibule

- Rosa Chaviano-Moran, DMD, FICD, *Associate Dean for Admissions, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine*
- Ana María Laguna, PhD, *Associate Professor of Spanish, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*
- Nancy M. H. Pontes PhD, RN, APN, FNP-BC, DRCC, FNAP, *Assistant Professor, Rutgers School of Nursing–Camden*

4:30 p.m.

Buses Return to Hotel

6:00 p.m.

Dinner at Local Paladar

Wednesday, November 13 | University of Havana Arts Day of the Arts, Culture and Education

8:00 a.m. Buses leave to take conference participants to the University of Havana

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. **Welcome Remarks and Introduction**
Edificio Varona, Amphitheatre

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Plenary Session: Mind the Gap, Translation and Migration Project**
Edificio Varona, Amphitheatre

The session is focused around the topic of translation and interpretation. “Mind the Gap” explores the quintessential need for individuals and groups to ‘explain themselves’ to others whether they are bridging distances created by language, culture, academic discourse, or one of a thousand other potential metaphorical or actual “gaps” in understanding. Translation has the unique ability to function as a continual, spontaneous act of integration. Translation is the on-going process at the heart of any relationship between artist/viewer, professor/student, government/people, etc.

Keynote Speakers:

- Colette Gaiter, Ph.D., *Professor of Art and Design, University of Delaware*
- Roberto Espí Valero, Ph.D., *Professor of the English Department of the Faculty of Foreign Languages (FLEX) of the University of Havana.*

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Coffee break**
Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Morning Workshops Sessions: “Art at the Intersection of Social Practice”**
Workshop I: Filmmaking and Social Practice
Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

This session explores film as entertainment, as narrative, and as a cultural event. The panelists will discuss the role of film production as a national cultural industry and its place in popular culture. Cuba’s film industry and the independent film industry in the United States are both contributing to the integration and understanding of the peoples of the world through cultural propositions that show diversity and inclusion in a space of creative freedom expressed in short films, documentaries, fiction films, television series and soap operas. Its scope includes exchanging creative experiences and collaboration with many film- and television-related institutions.

Panelists:

- Miguel Coyula, *Filmmaker*
- Amy Oden, *Documentalist and T.V. Producer*

Moderator:

- Robert Emmons, D. Litt., *Associate Director, Digital Studies Center, Rutgers–Camden*

Workshop II: Promoting Human and Planet-Friendly Alternatives to Globalization through Service Learning Projects in Santiago de Cuba

Edificio Varona, Salon 290 Aniversario

Service Learning has become an important teaching tool for students in the United States and it is also an important practice in Cuba's educational system. Whether academically-based or co-curricular, these experiences complement classroom learning, foster personal, professional and civic development, and allow students to work with others to enhance the well-being of our communities. This approach is particularly important to retrain and prepare young students with the skills and appreciation for becoming stewards of our global sustainability and quality of life. This session will highlight existing practices and programs that blend service learning with training and embed the important elements of Continuous Reflection, Connected Reflection, Challenging Reflection and Contextualized Reflection as fundamental elements in developing service learning approaches.

Panelist:

- Karyn Hollis, Ph.D., *Associate Professor, Director Cultural Studies Program, Department of English and Global Interdisciplinary Studies, Villanova University.*
- Mayra Elena Salas Vinent, Ph.D., *Professor, Senior Researcher and Master in Chemical Process Engineering, University of Oriente and University of Guantanamo, Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Agronomy, Santiago de Cuba*
- Ivette Aranda Salas, MSc., *Director Special School "Tania la Guerrillera" Santiago de Cuba; Ph.D candidate in science, University of Oriente, Santiago de Cuba, 2020.*

Moderator:

- Wanda I. Garcia, MSW, *Associate Director Community Leadership Center, Rutgers–Camden*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Afternoon Workshops

Workshop I: Cuban Troubadours: New Trova and Contemporary Cuban Song

Edificio Varona, Sala 1

Cuba's trova is its most flexible musical genre since the 1959 revolution. Whether the "Nueva Trova" of the 1970s and 1980s featuring Pablo Milanés and Silvio Rodríguez, the "Novísima Trova" of the 1990s featuring Frank Delgado and Gerardo Alfonso, or the 21st Century Contemporary Cuban Song of Ariel Díaz and Charly Salgado, Cuban troubadours are always reimagining this enduring, uncompromising, and undeniably Cuban musical tradition. This presentation features live performances.

Panelist:

- Robert Nasatir Ph.D., *World Languages Chair, Moorestown Friends School*

Workshop II: Beyond Language: Translating the Writing of María Irene Fornés

Salon 290 Aniversario

This panel will serve as a lightning rod for a staged reading of *The Conduct of Life*, a play by Cuban-born and internationally acclaimed playwright Maria Irene Fornes. Our goal: to find new ways to “translate” the language and ideas of a politically charged work of art. For thirty-five years, this play has been consistently produced in the name of women throughout the English and Spanish speaking world. Why are its messages so historically poignant? The answers lie in the manner in which this playwright chose to express herself? To Fornes, theater was the way to speak to the people. Her perspective is poetic, yet also charged with political remonstrance. This playwright captured and exposed a global problem of hegemony.

Panelists:

- Paul Bernstein, *Associate Professor of Theater, Rutgers-Camden*
- Nancy Valeur Ellis, *Professional Actor, Professor Rutgers-Camden*
- Gregory Furman, *Professional Actor, Alumni Rutgers-Camden*
- Gordon Joseph Malkowski III, *Senior Theater Major at Rutgers-Camden*
- Carmen Amanda Pendleton, *Director of the Rutgers-Camden Center for the Arts*
- Areej Shafique, *Marketing and Theater Student Rutgers-Camden*

Workshop III: Art as a Tool for the Update of Cultural Strategies in Cienfuegos

Salon 250 Aniversario

This session features Santiago Hermes, a local artist from Cienfuegos, Cuba. Santiago has been able to create an interactive space of artistic production that uses the arts as the space for sustaining Cuban culture. Through his work –Trazos Libres (Free Strokes), he is able to use the community as the platform for artistic expression by embedding dialogue with practice as a tool for connecting personal experiences to social context. Through his work, he is able to utilize alternative spaces, incorporate inter and transdisciplinary processes and encourage citizen participation.

Panelists:

- Santiago Hermes, *Visual Artist*
- María de la Caridad Cid Borrell, *Project Coordinator “Zona Creativa Trazos Libres” in Cienfuegos, Cuba*
- Keila Gascón Marturelo, *Associate Director Department of Projects of the Municipality and Specialist in Local Development*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Coffee Break

Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Art Installation-Blind Sight

Courtyard

Panelists:

- Margery Amdur, *Professor of Art Rutgers-Camden*

4:30 p.m.

Buses Return to Hotel

6:00 p.m.

Dinner at Local Paladar

Thursday, November 14 | College of San Geronimo, Old Havana

8:00 a.m.

Buses leave to College of San Geronimo in Old Havana

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Plenary Session: Historian Patrimonial in Celebrating Havana for 500 Years

Aula Magna de San Geronimo

Dr. Eusebio Leal has built a legacy for the City of Havana as its historian and architect of its restoration plan. When speaking about the significance of the 500 year anniversary, Dr. Leal expressed that *"Havana is real because it exists and magical because of the characteristics of its people, its architecture, its history... it is the city of music, poetry, discussion circles, the Plaza de la Revolución, which has become the multitude's space where we proclaim our victories and take a knee to mourn our dead in Barbados, Che, and that of Cuba's glorious children and historic places... This is the city of teachers, of those who went to teach literacy, of the glorious militia that defended the country, of literature and the architecture described by Alejo Carpentier."* Dr. Leal will lead this session and will share his perspectives on restoring the city and addressing the city's social and economic development needs. On the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of Havana, there has been a lot of activity to improve sanitation services, streets, health care and educational centers, along with the expansion of recreational options for the population, advancing internet connectivity and computerization of the city. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about the City Historian and the restoration projects.

Panelist:

- Eusebio Leal Spengler, Ph.D., *Historian for the City of Havana*

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Roundtable on Havana's 500th Anniversary**

Aula Magna de San Geronimo

Havana is an exotic, culturally vibrant and historical city and is celebrating its 500th anniversary. The city emerges through the integration of mix heritages that include Indians, Spaniards, and other Europeans, Chinese and Americans. These groups have imprinted their ideas, traditions, and passions onto the city. This session highlights the evolvement of Havana over the last 500 years but most importantly, it will look at what has been done to prepare for this historic milestone. City historian Eusebio Leal Spengler has dedicated more than 30 years of his life restoring colonial squares and buildings in Old Havana. He has helped piece Havana together building by building, connecting the city's past to the present. For the celebration, the Cuban government is helping give the city a much-needed facelift. Local streets and highways are being updated, the water infrastructure has received dire attention and popular attractions such as the Castillo del Morro lighthouse are being rehabilitated to better serve visitors from around the world. In the years leading up to the anniversary, nearly 600 historic buildings have been restored throughout the city. The provincial government is focusing on expanding green spaces and improving the parks found in the city's urban and suburban areas. This session will provide a view of these developments and what they mean for the Cubans and the Havana communities.

Panelists:

- Patricia Rodriguez, *Director of the Master Plan of Old Havana*
- Ayleen Robainas Barcia, *Architect, Office of the Historian of Havana*
- Felix Julio Alfonso, Ph.D., *Vice Dean, College of San Geronimo*

Moderator:

- Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D., *Rutgers Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor in Public Policy and Administration*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

San Geronimo College

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Visits to Old Havana Historic Preservation Project

4:00 p.m.

Buses Return to Hotel

6:00 p.m.

Closing Dinner



PROGRAMA DE CONFERENCIA

La cuarta conferencia anual de la Universidad de Rutgers en colaboración con la Universidad de la Habana, reflejara la continuación de proyectos de investigación conjunta en donde estamos concertando esfuerzos en el análisis entre los profesores para profundizar, desarrollar y enriquecer el conocimiento sobre los temas compartidos de investigación y la colaboración en: Desarrollo Comunitario y Espíritu Empresarial, incluyendo las artes; Campos STEM, ciencias ambientales, marinas e informáticas; además del sector de salud pública, leyes y asuntos constitucionales.

Lunes, 11 de Noviembre | Universidad de la Habana

8:00 a.m. Salida para la Universidad de la Habana

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Inauguración de la Conferencia y palabras de bienvenida

University of Habana - Anfiteatro Varona

- Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D., *Rutgers Junta de Gobernadores, distinguida profesora de servicio y presidenta de la conferencia*
- Miriam Nicado Garcia, Ph.D., *Rectora, Universidad de la Habana*

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Sesión Plenaria de Apertura: Las Universidades como Fuentes del Desarrollo Local**

University of Habana - Anfiteatro Varona

Panelistas:

- Miriam Nicado Garcia, Ph.D., *Rectora, Universidad de la Habana*
- C. Luis Alberto Pichs Garcia, Ph.D., *Rector, Universidad de las Ciencias Médicas de La Habana*
- Michael Palis, Ph.D., *Rector, Rutgers-Camden*
- Brian Strom, M.D., *Canciller, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS)*
- David Lopez, *Co-Decano, Profesor de Derecho y Alfred Slocum Scholar, Rutgers-Newark*

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Pausa para café

Edificio Varona, Cafeteria



10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Sesión Plenaria: Una Nueva Era Política: Relaciones entre los Estados Unidos y Cuba
Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

Esta sesión plenaria abordará la relación política en curso entre los Estados Unidos y Cuba. Los presidentes Barack Obama y Raúl Castro; que sucedió a su hermano como líder cubano en 2008, tomaron medidas extraordinarias para normalizar las relaciones bilaterales, restablecer lazos diplomáticos completos y aliviar las restricciones de viaje. Sin embargo, el presidente Donald J. Trump ha revertido algunas de las políticas de su predecesor, y algunos observadores esperan que su administración solo se vuelva más restrictiva con Cuba. Los panelistas discutirán cómo esta nueva era política bajo el presidente Trump impacta la esperanza de estabilizar las relaciones entre los dos países y qué nuevas reformas pueden ser efectivas para abordar los desafíos y las tensiones que resultan del enfoque de línea dura de la política estadounidense hacia Cuba. ¿Qué significa esto para Cuba como competidor en los mercados globales y como se ve afectado el orden mundial con el retroceso de las relaciones entre Cuba y USA?

Panelistas:

- Charles Auffant, J.D., *Profesor de Derecho Clínico, Facultad de Leyes Rutgers*
- Ernesto Domínguez Lopez, Ph.D., *Profesor de Historia, Universidad de la Habana*
- Luís Rene Fernández Tabio, Ph.D., *Investigador Principal y Profesor, Centro de Estudios Hemisféricos y de los Estados Unidos, Universidad de La Habana*
- Olga Rosa Gonzalez, Ph.D., *Directora Adjunta, Centro de Estudios Hemisféricos y de Los Estados Unidos, Universidad de la Habana*
- Carlos Seiglie, Ph.D., *Profesor de Economía, Rutgers-Newark*

Moderador:

- Raul Rodriguez Rodriguez, Ph.D., *Director, Centro de Estudios Hemisfericos y de los Estados Unidos, Universidad de la Habana*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Almuerzo en la Universidad de la Habana
Edificio Varona

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Taller I: Acceso Digital e Internet
Edificio Varona, Salon 290 Aniversario

La banda ancha y la conectividad a Internet continúan siendo un desafío para la sociedad cubana, particularmente en las áreas rurales – especialmente necesitada en áreas afectadas por desastres naturales. Esta sesión presenta nuevas ideas para implementar la tecnología de manera accesible, eficiente y asequible para permitir que los cubanos utilicen herramientas y recursos digitales.

Panelistas:

- Michael Palis, Ph.D., *Rector, Rutgers-Camden*
- Pedro Andres Urra González, Ph.D., *Fundador Infomed Cuba*

Moderador:

- Raúl Guinovart Díaz, Ph.D., *Decano, Escuela de Matemáticas y Ciencias de la Computación, Universidad de la Habana*

Taller II: Desarrollo local sostenible de la comunidad: medio ambiente, cambio climático y capacidad de recuperación en la sociedad y la economía

Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

Este taller presenta estudios de casos nuevos y exitosos sobre el desarrollo de comunidades locales que tratan con el medio ambiente, el cambio climático y la resiliencia. Esta sesión reúne campos multidisciplinarios para discutir soluciones, innovaciones, experiencias y estudios de casos exitosos de desarrollo de comunidades locales, medio ambiente y emprendimiento económico.

Panelistas:

- Patricia González Díaz, Ph.D., *Directora del Centro de Investigación Marina, Universidad de La Habana*
- Patricia Rodríguez, *Directora del Plan Maestro de La Habana Vieja*
- Amy Savage, Ph.D., *Profesora Asistente de Biología, Rutgers-Camden*
- Loiret Fernandez, Ph.D., *Profesora, FLACSO, Universidad de la Habana*

Moderadora:

- Maria del Carmen Zabala, Ph.D., *Profesora, FLACSO, Universidad de la Habana*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Pausa para café | Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

3:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Ceremonia de Investidura Honoris Causa | Recepción de Apertura

University of Habana – Aula Magna | Edificio Varona, Courtyard

6:15 p.m.

Buses de regreso al hotel

7:30 p.m.

Cena en paladar local



Martes, 12 de Noviembre | Universidad de la Habana

8:00 a.m.	Salida para la Universidad de la Habana
9:00 – 12:00 a.m.	Sesión Plenaria
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	El Sistema de Salud de Cuba y los Estados Unidos: Desafíos y Oportunidades; Locales y Globales <i>Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario</i> <p>El sistema de salud cubano continúa siendo un modelo para brindar atención médica accesible para todos sus ciudadanos. Esta sesión presenta estructuras y métodos sobre cómo Cuba construye una red de trabajadores de salud en toda la comunidad para abordar las necesidades urgentes de salud de la población. Esta sesión también presentará el modelo de Los Estados Unidos para abordar los desafíos y disparidades de salud en los Estados Unidos.</p> <p>Panelistas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vincent Silenzio, Ph.D., <i>Profesor de Salud Pública Urbana-Global en la Escuela de Salud Pública Rutgers</i>• Pastor Castell-Florit Serrate, <i>Doctor en Ciencias, Ph.D. y Presidente del Consejo Nacional de Sociedades Científicas de la Salud de Cuba</i>• C. Luis Alberto Pichs Garcia, Ph.D., <i>Rector, Universidad de las Ciencias Médicas de La Habana</i>• Vicente Gracias, MD, FACS, FCCP, FCCM, <i>Profesor, Departamento de Cirugía, Escuela de Medicina Robert Wood Johnson; Vicerrector senior de asuntos clínicos, Biomédica y ciencias de la salud de Rutgers; Vicepresidente de Asuntos de Salud, Rutgers, Universidad Estatal de Nueva Jersey</i> <p>Moderadora:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marie T. O'Toole, Ph.D., <i>Decana Asociada y profesora de la Escuela de Enfermería de Rutgers-Camden</i>
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Pausa para café <i>Edificio Varona, Cafeteria</i>
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Diálogo abierto, preguntas y recomendaciones sobre modelos de atención médica en Cuba y en los Estados Unidos <i>Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario</i>
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Almuerzo en la Universidad de la Habana <i>Edificio Varona</i>
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Sesiones de la tarde Taller I: Ciencias de los Materiales: Nano Ciencias y Tecnología <i>Edificio Varona, Salon 290 Aniversario</i> <p>Esta sesión reúne a académicos en los campos de STEM para discutir cómo usar los recursos naturales y la tecnología para resolver los desafíos de salud, medioambientales y marinos que enfrenta Cuba. Los expertos compartirán investigaciones innovadoras para abordar soluciones que sean rentables y generalizadas.</p> <p>Panelistas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lissette Agüero Lutzonó, Ph.D., <i>Doctora de Ciencias Químicas, Centro de Biomateriales BIOMAT, Universidad de la Habana</i>

- Cristina Díaz López, Ph.D., *Profesora Distinguida en Química, Universidad de la Habana*
- Angelina Díaz García, Ph.D., *Directora del Centro de Estudios Avanzados, Universidad de la Habana*
- Jesús Rubayo-Soneira, Ph.D., *Profesor de la Facultad de Ciencias y Tecnologías Nucleares (FCTN), Instituto Superior de Tecnología y Ciencias Aplicadas, Universidad de la Habana*
- David Salas-de la Cruz, Ph.D., *Profesor Asistente de Química, Rutgers-Camden*

Moderador:

- Luis Alberto Montero, Ph.D., *Profesor de Química, Universidad de la Habana*

Taller II: Desigualdades Sociales: Educación, Política, Sociedad Civil y Espíritu Empresarial

Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario

Las desigualdades sociales en la sociedad cubana continúan desafiando al sector público y las oportunidades para hacer crecer una fuerza laboral fuerte hacia las industrias y economías emergentes deben ser analizadas y bienvenidas por el gobierno y la sociedad en general. Esta sesión aborda cómo la política social puede impactar al sector educativo para preparar a los trabajadores para las demandas de una nueva economía en Cuba.

Panelistas:

- Ida L. Castro, JD, MA., *Vicepresidenta de Participación Comunitaria y Directora de la Oficina de Diversidad, Escuela de Medicina Geisinger Commonwealth, Scranton, PA*
- Maria del Carmen Zabala, Ph.D., *Profesora, FLACSO, Universidad de la Habana*
- Daybel Pañellas Álvarez, Ph.D., *Profesora de Psicología, Universidad de la Habana*
- Ted A. Henken, Ph.D., *Profesor Asociado de Sociología, Baruch College (CUNY)*
- Camilo Condis, *Emprendedor y Activista Social*
- Gilberto “Papito” Valladares Reina, *Artecorte Project*
- Victoria Chase, Esq., *Profesora Clínica Asociada, Rutgers Facultad de Derecho – Camden*
- Sara Plummer, Ph.D., *Profesora Asistente de Enseñanza, Rutgers Facultad de Trabajador Social – Camden*

Moderadora:

- Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D., *Rutgers Junta de Gobernadores Profesora Distinguida de Servicio en Política Pública y Administración*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Pausa para café

Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Sesiones de Trabajo, Trabajo en Equipo, Exposiciones de Arte y Sesiones de Póster
Salon 1 and Salon 290 Aniversario, Art Exhibits and Poster Sessions will be found along hallways and vestibule

- Rosa Chaviano-Moran, DMD, FICD, *Decana Asociada de Admisiones, Rutgers – Newark, Escuela de Medicina Dental*
- Ana María Laguna, PhD, *Profesora Asociada de Español, Rutgers-Camden*
- Nancy M. H. Pontes PhD, RN, APN, FNP-BC, DRCC, FNAP, *Profesora Asistente, Rutgers – Camden, Escuela de Enfermería*

4:30 p.m.

Buses Regreso al Hotel

6:00 p.m.

Cena en paladar local

Miércoles, 13 de Noviembre | Universidad de la Habana

Día de las Artes, Cultura y Educación

- 8:00 a.m.** Los autobuses salen del hotel para llevar a los asistentes a la Universidad de La Habana
- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.** Palabras de Bienvenida e Introducción
Edificio Varona, Anfiteatro
- 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.** **Sesión Plenaria Mind the Gap: Proyecto de Traducción y Migración**
Edificio Varona, Amphitheatre
- La exposición y el simposio se centran en torno al tema de la traducción e interpretación. “Mind the Gap” explora la necesidad esencial de que los individuos y los grupos se “expliquen” a los demás, ya sea que estén superando las distancias creadas por el lenguaje, la cultura, el discurso académico y uno de los mil “huecos” potenciales en la comprensión. La traducción tiene la capacidad única de funcionar como un acto continuo y espontáneo de integración. Es el proceso continuo en el corazón de cualquier relación entre artista-espectador, profesor-estudiante, gobierno-ciudadanos, etc.
- Keynote Speakers:**
- Colette Gaiter, Ph.D., *Profesora de Arte y Diseño, Universidad de Delaware*
 - Roberto Espí Valero, Ph.D., *Profesor del Departamento de Inglés de la Facultad de Lenguas Extranjeras (FLEX) de la Universidad de La Habana.*
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m.** Pausa para café
Edificio Varona, Cafeteria
- 10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** **Sesiones de la Mañana “Arte en la Intersección de la Práctica Social”**
- Taller I : Realización Cinematográfica y la Práctica Social**
Edificio Varona, Salon 250 Aniversario
- Esta sesión explora el cine como entretenimiento, narrativa y evento cultural. Los panelistas discutirán el papel de la producción cinematográfica como industria cultural nacional y su lugar en la cultura popular. La industria cinematográfica cubana y la industria cinematográfica independiente en los Estados Unidos contribuyen a la integración y a la comprensión de los pueblos del mundo, a través de propuestas culturales que muestran diversidad e inclusión en un espacio de libertad creativa expresado en cortometrajes, documentales, películas de ficción, series de televisión y telenovelas. Su alcance incluye el intercambio de experiencias creativas y la colaboración con instituciones relacionadas con el cine y la televisión. Esta sesión explorará este género y su impacto en la Cuba contemporánea.
- Panelists:**
- Miguel Coyula, *Cineasta*
 - Amy Oden, *Documentalista y Productora de Televisión*
- Moderator:**
- Robert Emmons, D. Litt., *Director Asociado, Centro de Estudios Digitales, Rutgers–Camden*

Taller II: Promoción de Alternativas de Globalización que sean Humanas y Amigables con El Planeta, a través de Proyectos de Servicio de Aprendizaje en Santiago de Cuba

Edificio Varona, Salon 290 Aniversario

Service - Learning se ha convertido en una herramienta de enseñanza importante para los estudiantes en los Estados Unidos y también es una práctica importante en el sistema educativo de Cuba. Ya sea con base académica o co-curricular, estas experiencias complementan el aprendizaje en el aula, fomentan el desarrollo personal, profesional y cívico, y permiten a los estudiantes trabajar con pares para mejorar el bienestar de nuestras comunidades. Este enfoque es particularmente importante para volver a capacitar y preparar a los jóvenes estudiantes con las habilidades y el entusiasmo para convertirse en administradores de nuestra sostenibilidad global y calidad de vida. Esta sesión destacará las prácticas y programas existentes que combinan el aprendizaje de servicio con la capacitación que integran los elementos importantes de la reflexión continua, conectada, desafiante y contextualizada como elementos fundamentales para desarrollar enfoques de aprendizaje de servicio.

Panelistas:

- Karyn Hollis, Ph.D., *Profesora Asociada, Directora del Programa de Estudios Culturales, Departamento de Inglés y Estudios Interdisciplinarios Globales, Universidad de Villanova*
- Mayra Elena Salas Vinent, Ph.D., *Doctora en Ciencias Pedagógicas, Profesora Titular, Investigadora Titular Master en Ingeniería de procesos químicos, Universidad de Oriente, Universidad de Guantánamo, Facultad de Ingeniería Química y Agronomía, Santiago de Cuba*
- Ivette Aranda Salas, MSc., *Directora, Escuela Especial "Tania la Guerrillera" Santiago de Cuba; estudiante de doctorado en ciencias, Universidad de Oriente, Santiago de Cuba, 2020*

Moderadora:

- Wanda I. Garcia, MSW, *Directora Asociada Centro de Liderazgo Comunitario, Rutgers-Camden*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Almuerzo con Artistas Invitados

Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Sesiones de la Tarde

Taller I: Trovadores Cubanos: Nueva Trova y Canción Contemporánea Cubana

Edificio Varona, Sala 1

La Trova Cubana es el genero musical mas flexible desde la Revolución de 1959. No importa si el la "Nueva Trova" de los años 70 o 80 con exponentes como Pablo Milanes y Silvio Rodriguez, o La "Novisima Trova" de los años 90 con exponentes como Frank Delgado y Gerardo Alfonso, o del siglo 21 con la Canción Contemporanea Cubana de Ariel Diaz y Charly Salgado, los trovadores Cubanos siempre se estan imaginado y fortaleciendo esta tradición indiscutiblemente cubana. Este sesión incluye presentaciones en vivo.

Panelista:

- Robert Nasatir Ph.D., *Director del Departamento de idiomas, Colegio Friends en Moorestown, NJ*

Taller II: Más Allá del Lenguaje: Traducir La Escritura de María Irene Fornés

Salon 290 Aniversario

Este panel servirá como un pararrayos para una lectura escenificada de *The Conduct of Life*, una obra de la dramaturga Maria Irene Fornes, nacida en Cuba y aclamada internacionalmente. Nuestro objetivo: encontrar nuevas formas de “traducir” el lenguaje y las ideas de una obra de arte políticamente cargada. Durante treinta y cinco años, esta obra ha sido producida constantemente en nombre de mujeres en todo el mundo de habla inglesa y española. ¿Por qué sus mensajes son tan conmovedores históricamente? Las respuestas se encuentran en la forma en que este dramaturgo eligió expresarse. Para Fornes, el teatro era la forma de hablar con la gente. Su perspectiva es poética, pero también está acusada de protesta política. Esta dramaturga capturó y expuso un problema global de hegemonía.

Panelistas:

- Paul Bernstein, *Profesor Asociado de Teatro, Rutgers–Camden*
- Nancy Valeur Ellis, *Actor profesional, Profesor Rutgers – Camden*
- Gregory Furman, *Actor Profesional, Exalumno Rutgers–Camden*
- Gordon Joseph Malkowski III, *Estudiante de Teatro en Rutgers–Camden*
- Carmen Amanda Pendleton, *Director del Centro Rutgers–Camden para las Artes*
- Areej Shafique, *Estudiante de Mercadeo y Teatro Rutgers–Camden*

Taller III: El Arte Como Herramienta para la Actualización de las Estrategias Culturales en Cienfuegos

Edificio Varona – Salón 250 Aniversario

Esta sesión presenta a Santiago Hermes, un artista local de Cienfuegos, Cuba. Como artista, Santiago ha podido crear un espacio interactivo de producción artística que utiliza las artes como el espacio para sostener la cultura cubana. A través de su trabajo –Trazos Libres (Free Strokes), ha utilizado la comunidad como plataforma para la expresión artística al integrar el diálogo con la práctica como una herramienta para conectar experiencias personales con el contexto social. A través de su trabajo, puede utilizar espacios alternativos, incorporar procesos inter y transdisciplinarios, y fomentar la participación ciudadana.

Panelists:

- Santiago Hermes, *Artista Visual*
- María de la Caridad Cid Borrell, *Coordinadora del Proyecto “Zona Creativa Trazos Libres” en Cienfuegos, Cuba*
- Keila Gascón Marturelo, *Subdirectora del Departamento de Proyectos de la Municipalidad de Cienfuegos y Especialista de Desarrollo Local*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Pausa para café
Edificio Varona, Cafeteria

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Instalación de Arte: Vista Ciega
Edificio Varona, Patio Interior

Panelista:

- Margery Amdur, *Profesora de Arte Rutgers—Camden*

4:30 p.m.

Buses Regreso al Hotel

6:00 p.m.

Cena en Paladar Local

Jueves, 14 de Noviembre | Colegio de San Geronimo, Havana Vieja

8:00 a.m.

Los autobuses salen para la universidad de San Gerónimo en La Habana Vieja

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Sesión Plenaria Patrimonio Histórico en la Celebración los 500 años de La Habana
Aula Magna de San Geronimo

El Dr. Eusebio Leal ha construido un legado para la Ciudad de La Habana como su historiador y arquitecto de su plan de restauración. Al hablar sobre la importancia del 500 aniversario, el Dr. Leal expresó que “La Habana es real porque existe, y mágica por las características de su gente, su arquitectura, su historia ... es la ciudad de la música, la poesía, de círculos de discusión, la Plaza de la Revolución, que se ha convertido en el espacio de la multitud donde proclamamos nuestras victorias y nos arrodillamos para llorar a nuestros muertos en Barbados, el Che, y el de los gloriosos niños y lugares históricos de Cuba. Esta es la ciudad de los maestros, de aquellos que fueron a enseñar alfabetización, de la gloriosa milicia que defendió el país, de la literatura y la arquitectura descrita por Alejo Carpentier”. El Dr. Leal dirigirá esta sesión y compartirá sus perspectivas sobre la restauración de la ciudad y abordará las necesidades de desarrollo social y económico de la ciudad. Con motivo del 500 aniversario de La Habana, ha habido mucha actividad para mejorar los servicios de saneamiento, las calles, la atención médica y los centros educativos, junto con la expansión de opciones recreativas para la población, el avance de la conectividad a Internet y la informatización de la ciudad. Esta será una gran oportunidad para aprender más sobre el historiador de la ciudad y los proyectos de restauración.

Panelista:

- Eusebio Leal Spengler, Ph.D., *Historiador de la Ciudad de La Habana*

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Mesa redonda sobre el 500 aniversario de la Habana**

Aula Magna de San Geronimo

La Habana es una ciudad exótica, culturalmente vibrante e histórica y celebra su 500 aniversario. La ciudad emerge a través de la integración de herencias mixtas que incluyen indios, españoles y otros europeos, chinos y estadounidenses. Estos grupos han plasmado sus ideas, tradiciones y pasiones en la ciudad. Esta sesión destaca la evolución de La Habana en los últimos 500 años, pero lo más importante, analizará lo que se ha hecho para prepararse para este hito histórico. El historiador de la ciudad Eusebio Leal Spengler ha dedicado más de 30 años de su vida a la restauración de plazas y edificios coloniales en La Habana Vieja. Ha ayudado a reconstruir La Habana edificio por edificio, conectando el pasado de la ciudad con el presente. Para la celebración, el gobierno cubano está invirtiendo en darle a la ciudad una nueva cara. Las calles y autopistas locales se están actualizando, la infraestructura del agua ha recibido atención extrema y las atracciones populares como el faro del Castillo del Morro se están rehabilitando para servir mejor a los visitantes de todo el mundo. En los años previos al aniversario, se han restaurado casi 600 edificios históricos en toda la ciudad. El gobierno provincial se está enfocando en expandir los espacios verdes y mejorar los parques que se encuentran en las áreas urbanas y suburbanas de la ciudad. Esta sesión brindará una visión de estos desarrollos y de lo que significan para los cubanos y las comunidades de La Habana.

Panelistas:

- Patricia Rodríguez, *Directora del Plan Maestro de la Habana Vieja*
- Ayleen Robainas Barcia, *Arquitecta, Oficina del Historiador de La Habana*
- Félix Julio Alfonso, Ph.D., *Vicedecano, Colegio de San Gerónimo*

Moderadora:

- Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D., *Rutgers Junta de Gobernadores Profesora Distinguida de Servicio en Política Pública y Administración*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Almuerzo en el Colegio de San Geronimo

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Visitas al Proyecto de Preservación Histórica de la Habana Vieja

4:00 p.m.

Buses de regreso al Hotel

6:00 p.m.

Cena de Clausura Paladar Local



PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

SENIOR UNIVERSITY LEADERS

Gloria Bonilla-Santiago, Ph.D.

Rutgers Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor in Public Policy and Administration, Conference Chair

Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago directs the Rutgers-Camden Community Leadership Center and is the overseer and Board Chair of the LEAP Academy University Charter School. Throughout her academic career, she has established a track record in coordinating large scale programs and private and public ventures that bring together external and internal stakeholders from a range of organizations, including government, business, non-profits and philanthropic sectors at the local, national and international levels.

As a leading scholar, researcher, speaker, and international cross-cultural training consultant, Dr. Santiago brings over 25 years of experience in program development and innovation, social entrepreneur, research, fundraising, strategic planning, and leadership training. She writes and speaks widely on the areas of community development, public policy, education, migration, diversity management and, organizational leadership. In 1993, she received the Warren I. Susman Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest recognition for teaching given to Rutgers' faculty by the President of the University. In 2008, she received the L'Oreal Paris Women of Worth award, a national recognition that honors 10 women for their exemplary and transcending service to communities.

Dr. Santiago's record of service and the impact of her work on poor children/families, minorities, and community are exemplary by any standard. She is a passionate and enthusiastic educator, who has focused her professional acumen on helping people to be able to become self-reliant citizens through education and professional development. Her work on behalf of children and families has resulted in the development of a national and international model for public schools for poor children. Her model LEAP charter school in Camden City today serves 2,000 students from infancy through college and has become a hub for serving the families of these children through a number of LEAP portfolio schools in Camden City.

Michael A. Palis, Ph.D.

Provost, Rutgers-Camden

Michael A. Palis is currently Provost of Rutgers University – Camden, which he joined in 1996 as Founding Chair of the Department of Computer Science. As provost, Palis serves as chief academic officer for Rutgers–Camden, which enrolls 6,535 students in 36 undergraduate majors and 29 graduate programs. Palis works with Rutgers–Camden's academic units to ensure that rigorous standards for curriculum and faculty development are achieved. Before becoming Provost, he served as Associate Dean (2005-2007) and subsequently as Interim Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School (2007-2011). Before joining Rutgers, Dr. Palis served on the faculties of the University of Pennsylvania and the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Dr. Palis' research interests include parallel and distributed computing, real-time systems, design and analysis of algorithms, and computational complexity. He is an editor of the International Journal of Foundations of Computer Science and has previously served on the editorial boards of the IEEE Transactions on Computers (1994-1997) and the IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems (1995-1998), and the Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing (1993-2013). He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. Palis received the B.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering (cum laude) and Physics (magna cum laude) from the University of the Philippines in 1979 and 1980, respectively, and the Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Minnesota in 1985.

Brian L. Strom, M.D., M.P.H.

Chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Services

Dr. Brian Strom is the Inaugural Chancellor of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) and the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs at Rutgers University. In addition to writing more than 600 papers and 13 books, he has been principal investigator for more than 275 grants, including over \$115 million in direct costs alone. Dr. Strom has been the recipient of multiple awards in recognition of the contributions he has made in his career to clinical research.

Prior to joining Rutgers, Dr. Strom was the Executive Vice Dean for Institutional Affairs at the Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania and Senior Advisor to the Provost for Global Health Initiatives. Between 1981-1998, Dr. Strom was a founder and leader of the International Clinical Epidemiology Network. Dr. Strom has chaired several committees for the Institute of Medicine (IOM) (now the National Academy of Medicine) including the Committee on Smallpox Vaccine Program Implementation, Committee on the Consequences of Reducing Sodium in the Population, Committee on a National Strategy for the Elimination of Hepatitis B and C, and is currently a member of the Forum on Drug Discovery Development and Translation. He is a member of its Interest Group on Global Health.

David Lopez, JD.

Co-Dean, Professor of Law and Professor Alfred Slocum Scholar, Rutgers–Newark

David Lopez joined Rutgers Law School as Co-Dean in August 2018 and was the longest-serving General Counsel of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Dean Lopez was twice nominated to the position by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the United States Senate. He most recently worked as a partner at Outten & Golden in Washington D.C. and is a nationally-recognized expert in Civil Rights and Employment Law. He earned his undergraduate degree Magna Cum Laude from Arizona State University and his J.D. from Harvard Law School.

Miriam Nicado García, Ph.D.

Rector, University of Havana

Miriam Nicado García, Ph.D. Rector of the University of Havana, is the first woman who has held the position in the house of high studies of the capital of Cuba since its founding almost three centuries ago.

Until 2018, Dr. Nicado led the University of Computer Science, created to become an advanced technology center to stimulate the national creation of software. Professor Nicado García has an advanced degree on and served as Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics, Physics, and Computation and Vice-Chancellor at the Central University of Las Villas.

As a professor, she has taught in her field of study at universities in several countries in Latin America, including: Mexico, Chile, Venezuela, Ecuador, and the Dominican Republic. She was awarded the National and Provincial Vanguard Award, a distinction granted by the Central de Trabajadores de Cuba.

Eusebio Leal Spengler, Ph.D.

Historian, City of Havana and Dean, San Gerónimo College, University of Havana

Dr. Eusebio Leal Spengler started working in 1959 at the Metropolitan Administration of Havana and in 1967, he was appointed Director of the Havana City Museum. He undertook the restoration works of the Government House, the former Palace of Captain-Generals and Town Hall, which were finished in 1979. In 1981, he was entrusted the responsibility to carry out the investments corresponding to the restoration works approved by the government of the city. In 1986, he was given the responsibility for the works in the fortresses of San Carlos de La Cabaña and, later, the Castle of the Three Kings of Morro.

According to the declaration of UNESCO, the area within the former city walls and the fortification system for the defense of the city were registered in the World Heritage List in 1982 with number 27.

He has since become the official Historian of the City; Honorary President of the Cuban ICOM Committee and Honorary President of the Cuban ICOMOS Committee and of the “Heritage, Community and Environment” civil society (NGO); Dean of the faculty of the San Gerónimo de La Habana University; Professor emeritus at the University of Havana; President of the Network of Offices of the Historian and Conservator of Cuba; President of Honour of the Economic Society of Friends of the Country; President of the Cuba – Mexico Friendship Parliamentary Group and Vice President of the Cuba-Japan Friendship Parliamentary Group.

He has written essays, forewords and articles about Cuban history, art, restoration and other general subjects. He is the author of the following books: *Regresar en el tiempo* (Going back in time), *Detén el paso caminante* (Stop walking, wanderer), *Verba Volant, Fiñes* (Kids), *Carlos Manuel de Céspedes El Diario Perdido* (The Lost Diary), *La Luz sobre el Espejo* (The Light on the Mirror), *Poesía y Palabra* (Poetry and Word) I and II, *Para no Olvidar* (Lest We Forget) I, II and III; *Fundada Esperanza* (Founded Hope), *Patria Amada* (Beloved Homeland), *Bio-Bibliografía* (Bio-Bibliography) (I, II, III and IV), *Legado y Memoria* (Legacy and Memory), *Hijo de mi tiempo* (Son of my Time) and *Aeterna Sapientia*.

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C. Luis Alberto Pichs Garcia, Ph.D.

President, University of the Medical Sciences of Havana

Dr. C. Luis Alberto Pichs Garcia has a doctorate in Medicine and Teaching Pedagogy, as well as specialties in Internal Medicine and Intensive and Emergency Care. He was also for a time the head of the Medical Sciences faculty at the Calixto García hospital (between 2011 and 2015) and one of his jobs was to serve as medical training advisor to the Ministry of Higher Education in the Republic of Angola (2008) as well as the Education Ministry in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (2010-2011). He is a member of the Technical Evaluation Committee at the accreditation board for higher education in Cuba, and the president of the Latin American Association of Faculties and Medical Schools (ALAFEM by its initials in Spanish).

Dr. Pichs, who is fondly known simply as “El Profe Pichs” has a degree in Health Management and a masters in Medical Education. He has been involved in the teaching of Medical Sciences for more than three decades, the last 15 years of which were spent at the Academic Directorate, with a variety of responsibilities at the University and finally, in the last year, as the Rector at Havana’s University of Medical Sciences. This is the place where he trained as a doctor, as a specialist, and as a teacher, and one reason he considers it such a great honor to be named as the University’s director.

CUBAN PRESENTERS

Lisette Agüero Luztonó, Ph.D.

Doctor of Chemistry Sciences, BIOMAT Center, University of Havana

Dr. Agüero Luztonó holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry Sciences from Universidad de La Habana (2015). She is currently an assistant researcher at the Biomaterial Center BIOMAT. She brings extensive experience in Chemistry, with emphasis on Physics-Chemistry and Biomaterials Science.

Ivette Aranda Salas, MSc.

Ms. Ivette Aranda Salas is the Director of the Special School "Tania la Guerrillera" in Santiago de Cuba. She is Ph.D. candidate in science at the University of Oriente, Santiago de Cuba, 2020.

Felix Julio Alfonso, Ph.D.

Professor and Vice Dean, San Gerónimo College, University of Havana

Dr. Felix Julio Alfonso is a renowned historian in Havana, serving as Vice Dean of San Geronimo College. He has received numerous awards in historic research, including the Tabares del Real and Jorge Enrique Mendoza Awards. He has contributed to the definition of Cuban national identity, particularly through his research on baseball as a vehicle for observing the processes of the establishment and development of Cuban culture. He has published extensively on the history and culture of Cuba. He has a Doctorate degree in Historical Sciences.

Pastor Castell-Florit Serrate

Doctor in Science, Ph.D. and President of the National Council of Scientific Health Societies of Cuba

Dr. Pastor Castell-Florit Serrate is currently director of the National School of Public Health, President of the National Council of Scientific Societies of Health and Co-President of the Academic Council of Cooperation in Medical Education Cuba-States United (MEDDIC).

He earned a Doctor of Health Sciences and Doctor of Sciences and is inducted into the Academy of Sciences of Cuba. His academic experience is varied and has served as a Full Professor and Consultant, and Researcher of Merit. He has authored and co-authored several books and monographs and brings forty-nine years of experience in health management with 18 of them as provincial director.

He has won for four times the Annual Health Prize of Cuba, the Prize for Scientific Merit for lifetime work; as well as the Prize in Health Administration granted by PAHO-WHO to the most relevant director of the Americas.

Maria de la Caridad Cid Borrell

Coordinator, Free Strokes Creative Zone Project

Maria de la Caridad works closely with Santiago Hermes and has taught courses and lectures in the connection between art and building social responsibility of new Cuban enterprising people. She has also coordinated large scale public art projects, theatrical presentations, workshops, and festivals. She was recently recognized with a distinguished award for her municipal community work in Cienfuegos.

Camilo Condis,

Entrepreneur and Social Activist

Mr. Condis is an Industrial Engineer with a degree from the Instituto Superior Politecnico Jose Antonio Echevarria. He also holds a MBA from Universidad Catolica San Antonio in Murcia, Spain. From 2011 until July 2019 he served as the as the General Manager and CFO for Artecorte, an NGO focused on local development providing vocational educational services to prepare disadvantaged youth for job placement in Cuba's growing private sector. Currently Mr. Condis serves as representative of La Liga en Cuba, a non-profit dedicated to advocate for social change and to provide safe and positive environment to the Cuban youth through a variety of initiatives, including the promotion of soccer as a way to develop social and human values through competition.

Miguel Coyula

Filmmaker

Miguel Coyula Aquino is an Independent filmmaker. At the age 17, he made his first short film with a VHS camcorder, which led to his admittance to the International Film School of San Antonio de Los Baños, Cuba (EICTV). Since then he has won various awards in his country with his experimental short films *Bailar Sobre Agujas* (1999), *Buena Onda*, (1999), and *Clase Z "Tropical"*(2000), among others.

In 2000, he was offered a scholarship to the Lee Strasberg Theater Institute in New York where he made his first feature *Red Cockroaches* (2003). The film was described by *Variety* as "a triumph of technology in the hands of a visionary with know-how..." and went on to gather several awards in the international film festival circuit. His new film is *Memorias del Desarrollo*, a follow-up to the Cuban classic *Memorias del Subdesarrollo* (1968), based on the new novel by Cuban writer Edmundo Desnoes and for which he won a Guggenheim Fellowship.

He has presented, discussed and given talks about his work at Yale, Princeton, Cornell, Tulane, University of Arizona, University of Santa Barbara, International School of Cinema and Television of San Antonio de los Baños among others.

Angelina Díaz Garcia, Ph.D.

Director of the Advance Studies Center, University of Havana

Dr. Diaz Garcia has developed research in nuclear applications in industry, environment and medicine with an emphasis on medical physics and different imaging modalities of nuclear medicine. She is the author of 50 scientific publications. She has carried out tasks of direction and management of the research activity. She was a National Liaison Officer with the International Atomic Energy Agency. President of the Advanced Energy and Technologies Agency and Director of CEADEN. She has been awarded nationally and internationally for research results.

Cristina Diaz Lopez, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Department of Analytical Chemistry, University of Havana

Dr. Cristina Diaz López is a renowned scholar in the field of Analytical Chemistry. She has recently studied the role of the university in the creation of an environmental culture for sustainable development. Her other research interests include the development of analytical procedures for the preconcentration and determination of heavy metals in waters, sediments and organisms; high blood tension in Cuban's pregnant women; and the assessment of the pollution and integrated management in coastal zones in Havana. She has a PhD in Chemistry Sciences from the University of Havana.

Ernesto Domínguez Lopez, Ph.D.

Professor of History, University of Havana

Dr. Dominguez Lopez Current research interest is focus on the evolution of US political structures since the 80s. As a significant part of this research, I'm interested in the formation and evolution of political structures within immigrant communities, like the Cuban Americans, as part of US political system. The primary goal of this research is the interpretation and explanation of postindustrial society and its multiple components from complex perspective. Complexity, system theory, are primordial theoretical referents, as well as the work by Fernand Braudel, Wallerstein, William Sewell Jr., Ilya Progyne, Edgar Morin, John Holland, among others.

Roberto Espí Valero, Ph.D.

Professor of the English Department of the Faculty of Foreign Languages (FLEX) of the University of Havana.

He has taught courses, workshops and conferences on translation and interpretation at the request of different centers in the country. Likewise at the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA), Nicaragua; the Universities of Antioquia (Medellín) and El Valle (Cali), Colombia; the Universities of Wolverhampton (England) and the "Herriot Watt" of Edinburgh (Scotland), United Kingdom; the University of Gothenburg, Sweden; and the Autonomous University of Baja California, Mexico. He has presented papers at national and international scientific events. He participated in the Formation Training Course in Interpretation offered by the Directorate General for Interpretation of the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium. Member of the National English Career Commission, the FLEX Scientific Council and the National Court for the granting of the scientific degree of doctor of linguistic sciences.

Loiret Fernandez, Ph.D.

Professor on Plant Physiology at the University of Havana

Bachelor of Biology, 1997; Master in Plant Biology, 2001 and Doctor in Biological Sciences in 2007 at the University of Havana. He is currently Professor at the Faculty of Biology of the University of Havana where he is: Secretary of the National Court of Doctorates in Biological Sciences, Vice-President of the Scientific Council, Member of the National Commission of the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology career. The main investigations have been carried out in the subjects: Plant-Benefit Microorganisms interaction, Biological Nitrogen Fixation, Abiotic stress. He has participated in research projects: CIDA Carleton University, 1997-2002; BMBF, Bayreuth University, 2000-2003; Cuba - Venezuela Cooperation Agreement, 2008-2009; CAPES / MONTH Brazil-Cuba UFRN-UH, 2011-2016; InFertRes Rostock University 2018 - 2020. He has conducted research stays at: Saint Mary University, Canada; Bayreuth University, Germany; Humboldt University, Germany; Center for Genomic Sciences, Mexico; IGZ Leibniz Institut, Germany; University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil.

Santiago Hermes Martinez Zerquera

Artist, Free Strokes Creative Zone Project

Santiago Hermes graduated in engraving and drawing at the National Art School in Havana in 1990. He has done 58 personal exhibitions, 142 performances and 60 collective exhibitions. Among these presentations, the most representative is the "Top Hat" traveling personal exhibit dedicated to the 49 victims of the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando. He is a member of the Visual Arts Board, the Cuban Committee "The slave route: resistance, freedom and heritage", the Provincial Group of the Psychologists Cuban Society, Cuban Educator Association. He is a founder and leader of the sociocultural community project "Free Strokes".

Luis Alberto Montero Cabrera, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Chemistry

Dr. Luis Alberto Montero Cabrera has had a distinguished career studying quantum chemistry and quantum mechanics, particularly aligning computer science with biological processes in the study of bioinformatics. He has received numerous awards from notable scientific institutions in Cuba, including the National Trade Union of Scientific Workers and the National Trade Union of Education. He received his Doctorate in the Sciences from the University of Havana.

Amy Oden

Documentalist and T.V. Producer

“Emmy Award winning Producer Amy Oden currently works at PBS’s Maryland Public Television where she sheds light on a variety of social and scientific topics including the Baltimore uprising, fracking, mass incarceration and the opioid crisis. She is currently working on her third independent feature, “Calasag”, and teaching intermediate documentary at the University of Maryland. Amy holds a BA in Journalism from the University of Maryland, and an MA in Gender and Media from George Washington University. Her work has won Emmy, Davey, and W3 Awards.”

Luis René Fernández Tabío, Ph.D.

Senior Researcher and Professor, Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies, University of Havana

Dr. in Economics, University of Havana, 2004, Master in Economics from Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, 1996. Bachelor in Economics, University of Havana, 1979. Dr. Fernandez Tabio has collaborated with foreign institutions, including Visiting Professor in the Department of History and the Caribbean Studies Program of the “New College” of the University of Toronto from October 29 to November 29, 2012: Preparation of a course on “Foreign Policy of Canada towards Latin America and the Caribbean : main trends and future perspectives.” 12 Meetings (Classes and seminars), 48 hours, with funding from the Faculty Enrichment Program of the Canadian government.

Ayleen Robainas Barcia, Architect

Office of the Historian of Havana

Architect and Specialist in Restoration of the Heritage at The Historian’s Office of Havana. Member of the Monuments Commission of Havana. Dr. Robainas Barcia contributes with The Office of the Historian of Havana, the autonomous territorial agency responsible for the integral management of the Priority Conservation Zone, which includes the Historic Center of Havana and the Traditional Malecon. In 1993, the State Council of the Republic of Cuba granted special legal and prerogative powers to facilitate the integral revitalization process of the Historic Center of Havana, based on the safeguarding of the historical-cultural heritage, with emphasis on social and in the protection and integration of the local population.

Patricia Rodríguez

Director of the Master Plan of Old Havana

Patricia Rodríguez Alomá is an architect who has been involved in rehabilitation efforts in Old Havana since 1984. In 2003 she was appointed Director of the Master Plan for the Comprehensive Revitalization of Old Havana, where she works alongside Dr. Eusebio Leal Spengler.

Dr. Rodríguez Alomá, Director of the City Historian's Office Master Plan, explained, "In that era, a structure was designed that included the Office, the archeology and architecture cabinets, and the museums, but over time, everything grew. An enterprise system was created to develop tourism and began to generate economic resources. The implementation of this Master Plan began in 1998 and has reached the present with new methods. Today, the work of the City Historian's Office is aligned with the country's National Economic and Social Development Plan through 2030, and includes some variations based on the current context. The success of the City Historian's Office and its Master Plan lies in the integrated work carried out over years, with all sectors. A highly complex achievement that faces the everyday challenge of maintaining the Cuban capital's central historic district as an inhabited, living neighborhood, where this mix of past and present, with 500 years of history, is preserved.

Raúl Rodríguez Rodríguez, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Hemispheric and USA studies, University of Havana

Dr. Raúl Rodríguez Rodríguez is a professor/researcher and currently Director of the Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies at the University of Havana. Mr. Rodríguez holds a B.A. degree in English from the Higher Institute of Foreign Languages, a M.A. degree in 20th century history and international relations, a Ph.D. in History from the School of History and Social Sciences, all from the University of Havana. At the University of Havana, he teaches introductory and postgraduate courses on U.S. and Canadian history and he has co-authored syllabi and taught courses (in English) on Cuban history and the history of U.S.-Cuban relations to U.S. undergraduate students from the Harvard University, University of North Carolina, American University and University of Alabama on semester programs at the University of Havana since 2004.

Cultural Historical Heritage and arbitrator of the Revista Pedagogía Universitaria of the Ministry of Higher Education.

Olga Rosa González, Ph.D.

Deputy Director, Center for Hemispheric and United States Studies, University of Havana

A graduate of the School of Foreign Languages of the University of Havana (1997), Master (2004, 2013) Olga Rosa González is the deputy director of the Center for Hemispheric and U.S. Studies of the University of Havana.

She is also a professor in the University's School of Communication and the School Foreign Languages. She has studied the American and Canadian public opinion towards Cuba as well as on the media-elite relations in both countries for over a decade. She is also interested in public diplomacy, political communication, strategic communication among other topics. She has been a panelist at different national and international academic events and her articles have been published in Cuba and abroad. She is a member of the Cuban Association of Social Communicators (ACCS), the Cuban United Nations Association (ACNU) and the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). She also enjoys doing translations.

Mayra Elena Salas Vinent, Ph.D.

Professor, Senior Researcher and Master in Chemical Process Engineering, University of Oriente and University of Guantanamo, Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Agronomy, Santiago de *Cuba*

Jesús Rubayo-Soneira, Ph.D.

Professor of Nuclear Sciences and Technologies (FCTN), Superior Institute of Technology and Applied Sciences

Professor Rubayo has served as a Visiting Professor at numerous scientific institutions outside Cuba, including the Swiss Institute of Technology in Zurich; Ecole Politecnic Federal de Laussane, Switzerland; Fundamental Physical Institute, CSIC, Madrid, Spain; the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Tokyo; the Department of Chemistry at Leeds University (U.K); the University of Science and Technology Lille Laboratory in France; University of Bordeaux in France; Federal University of Río de Janeiro, Brazil and University of California, Irvine, USA.

Professor Rubayo's research fields are Molecular Physics, Molecular Dynamics Simulation, Dynamic Study of the Van der Waals Molecules, and Molecular Dynamics of light-induced processes occurring in condensed matter. He has published more than 90 scholarly articles on these topics in Physical Review B, Physical Review Letters, Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics, Chemical Physics Letters, the Journal of Chemical Physics and other scholarly journals.

Pedro Andres Urra González, Ph.D.

Founder Informed Cuba

Pedro Andre Urra Gonzalez is a Professor at the University of Havana and Auxiliary Researcher. He graduated from the Higher Institute of International Relations in Havana, Cuba in 1984. He has dedicated his professional life to the promotion and development of networks, the integration of information and communications, technologies in the field of scientific information and capacity development. He worked between 1991 and 2010 in the development of the Cuban Health Network known as "In-formed in which Internet technologies were applied early in Cuba. Since 2012 he has worked at the University of Havana as a professor combining teaching work with project advice in relation to the use of information and communications technologies.

María del Carmen Zabala, Ph.D.

Professor, Latin American Social Sciences (FLACSO), University of Havana

Dr. María del Carmen Zabala researches social development from an interdisciplinary perspective, with an emphasis on the themes of social inequality, poverty, equitable politics, family and gender. She recently won a prestigious award from the National Academy of Sciences of Cuba on an investigation on economic efficiencies and social equity. She received her PhD in Psychological Sciences from the University of Havana.

Gilberto "Papito" Valladares Reina

Artecorte Project

Gilberto Valladares learned his craft as a teenager, starting at a state-owned salon in a working-class neighborhood. Then, he became a hairdresser at the Hotel Habana Libre. But he soon aspired to be self-employed and opened Artecorte in Old Havana in 1999. Valladares has since grown into one of Havana's most recognized civic and entrepreneurial figures. Gilberto Valladares, or "Papito", is an artistic icon in the Cuban community.

U.S. SCHOLARS

Margery Amdur, M.F.A., *Professor of Art, Rutgers–Camden*

Born in Pittsburgh, PA; received BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and MFA from the University of Wisconsin; lives in Philadelphia, PA and teaches at Rutgers University, Camden, NJ. She has had over 60 solo exhibitions and her work has been written about extensively. Some of the highlights in the past 5 years include a permanent installation installed in the Spring Garden subway station, Philadelphia, PA, an installation, *My Nature*, at the Philadelphia International Airport. She was selected as a Senior Visiting Fellow at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary. In 2016, and 2017, Margery represented the US in their Art in Embassy Program in Riga, Latvia, and Paramaribo, Suriname. She installed two large wall constructions in each location. In 2018, the PA Convention Center purchased two large works for their permanent collection, and she received the Jerry Shore Fellowship at the Vermont Studio Center. Her newest bodies of work from the series *Blind Sight* will be pre-sented in 2019 in Istanbul, Turkey and in Havana Cuba.

Charles I. Auffant, J.D., *Clinical Professor of Law, Rutgers–Newark*

Professor Auffant received his B.A. from Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York in 1979 and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law–Newark in 1982. He joined Rutgers in 1998 as a clinical attorney in the Urban Legal Clinic. Professor Auffant has worked as a staff attorney for Essex-Newark Legal Services, as director of housing for the Urban League of Essex County, as associate counsel for the Newark Board of Education, and as counsel to the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. His urban law experience also includes serving as a commissioner of the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Newark since 1997. In the Community and Transactional Lawyering Clinic he specializes in the real estate and transactional representation of urban charter schools.

Paul Bernstein, *Associate Professor of Theater, Rutgers–Camden*

Paul Bernstein is an Associate Professor of Theater and Film at Rutgers University–Camden. He is a theater artist focused on the past and future of vital experimental performance. His plays have been performed at The Ludwig Museum of Modern Art in Budapest, at the Lincoln Center, the HERE Arts Center, The Public Theater in New York, the Bovic Cultural Center in Slovenia, the L1 Dance-Theater in Budapest, the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao de Melkweg, the Muiderpoort Theater in Amsterdam, and The New End Theatre in London. His published works on theater-making discuss a view of post-modern playwrighting that goes well outside the box of scripted plays. In particular, Professor Bernstein published a chapter in a book on Cuban-born playwright who had a major experimental impact on global theater called “Conducting a Life: Reflections on the Theatre of Maria Irene Fornes,” Smith & Kraus: New Hampshire, 2000.

Victoria Chase, J.D., *Clinical Associate Professor of Law and Chair for Clinical Programs, Rutgers–Camden*

Victoria Chase teaches in the Domestic Violence Clinic and is the chair for clinical programs. She has experience in disability law, transportation law, environmental law, family law, public benefits, special education, and consumer protection. She formerly worked as the Executive Director of the Legal Clinic for the Disabled, a commercial litigator and for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Ida L. Castro, JD, MA, *Vice President for Community Engagement/Chief Diversity Officer at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine (Geisinger Commonwealth) in Scranton, Pennsylvania*

Dr. Castro is responsible for leading effective engagement with diverse communities within NEPA and establishes meaningful collaborations to reduce health disparities and increase the pool of qualified and physicians. She was responsible for developing and implementing the Center of Excellence for Diversity and Inclusion supported by a \$3.4 million HRSA/HHS grant to promote a diverse physician workforce. Dr. Castro is co-founder of Women in

Philanthropy at the Scranton Area Community Foundation. Dr. Castro was appointed the first Latina Chairwoman/CEO of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by President Clinton in 1998. In 2004, Dr. Castro was appointed as the Haywood Burns Chair for Civil Rights at CUNY School of Law. She served as the first Hispanic Commissioner/CEO of the New Jersey State Department of Personnel from 2002-2004.

Dr. Castro has been the recipient of numerous achievement awards including Governor's Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania Award, PA Diversity Institute Award, Top 25 2009 Women NEPA NAWBO, the Hispanic Bar Association, MALDEF, the National Puerto Rican Coalition lifetime achievement award and she is the only Latina inducted into Rutgers University's Alumni Hall of Fame. She is a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico. She received her Master's degree from Rutgers University and her Juris Doctorate from Rutgers School of Law-Newark.

Robert A. Emmons, D., *Associate Director, Digital Studies Center, Rutgers-Camden*

Robert A. Emmons Jr. is Associate Director of the Digital Studies Center, an Assistant Teaching Professor in the Fine Arts Department at Rutgers University-Camden and a documentary filmmaker. His latest documentary, *Sickies Making Films*, is about early film censorship and cinema's battle for First Amendment protection. His 2014 film, *Diagram for Delinquents* is about Fredric Wertham and the comic book panic of the 1940's and '50s. His previous films include: *YARDALE!*, *Wolf at the Door*, *Goodwill: The Flight of Emilio Carranza* (2007), and *De Luxe: The Tale of Blue Comet* (2010). *Goodwill* was screened as part of the Smithsonian Institute exhibition: "Our Journeys/Our Stories: Portraits of Latino Achievement at the New Jersey Historical Society", and in 2009 received Mexico's Lindbergh-Carranza International Goodwill Award as a "Messenger of Peace."

Vicente Gracias, MD, FACS, FCCP, FCCM, *Professor, Department of Surgery, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; Senior Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS); Vice President for Health Affairs, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*

Dr. Vicente Gracias is a Senior Executive and Faculty member at Rutgers University, Senior Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs and Chief Clinical Officer of the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences. In his role as Vice President of Health Affairs for Rutgers and President and Board Chair of Rutgers Health Group, he leads Rutgers' integrated inter professional faculty group practices and promotes ongoing value-driven care across the university. As CAO, Dr. Gracias' primary responsibility is to provide executive oversight of the mission of the academic health system. Dr. Gracias leads the strategic planning for undergraduate and graduate medical education conducted at RWJBH teaching hospitals such as the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine. He also serves as Chair of the Health Education Executive Council.

Dr. Gracias is a leading expert in health system design, structure, and performance improvement. He is the founding director of two fellowships in surgical critical care and acute care surgery at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He has published extensively on acute care surgery and its role in expanding the surgical workforce in Latin America and on using global surgical indicators to improve trauma/surgical care nationally.

Ted A. Henken, Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Sociology, Baruch College (CUNY)*

Ted A. Henken is a tenured Associate Professor of Sociology at Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY). He holds a Ph.D. in Latin American Studies from Tulane University and was the former President of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE, 2012-2014).

Ted Henken specializes in the social implications of Cuban economic reform and the rise of the micro-enterprise sector on the island for over 20 years. He is the co-author with Archibald Ritter of the book "Entrepreneurial Cuba: The Changing Policy Landscape" (First Forum Press, 2015), which will be published in 2019. Dr. Henken has published multiple articles on the Cuban "blogosphere" and its ever-inventive "digital millennials."

He is currently co-editing the book, "Cuba 2.0: How the Digital Revolution is Remaking the Cuban Revolution" (University of Florida Press, 2020). Additionally, he writes the annual "Freedom on the Net" report on Cuba for Freedom House.

Henken has travelled to Cuba several times since 1997 to conduct research and interviews, attend conferences, and build bridges of mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and Cuba. He has also hosted scores of Cuban scholars, artists, entrepreneurs, writers, and civil society activists on visits to the U.S. for more than 20 years.

Karyn Hollis, Ph.D., *Associate Professor, Director Cultural Studies Program, Department of English and Global Interdisciplinary Studies, Villanova University*

Karyn Hollis, Ph.D. is an associate professor in the Department of English and Global Interdisciplinary Studies at Villanova University where she directs the Cultural Studies Program. Her research projects include service learning in Cuba, globalization and media in Cuba, discursive analysis of WikiLeaks cables, the Trans-Pacific Partnership treaty, the relationship between new forms of media and social activism in the case of worker co-ops in the US and abroad and the history of gendered discursive practice. She has published *Liberating Voices: Writing at the Bryn Mawr Summer School for Women Workers* (2004), which was supported by a year-long research grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. More recently she published an Anthology with Silvia Nagy-Zekmi, Ph.D., entitled, *Truth to Power: Public Intellectuals In and Out of Academe*. A further volume, *Global Academe: Engaging Intellectual Discourse*, was published in December of 2011.

Robert Nasatir, Ph.D., *World Languages Chair at Moorestown Friends School in New Jersey*

Robert Nasatir received his doctorate in Spanish from Vanderbilt University. He wrote his dissertation on musical settings of the poetry of Nicolás Guillén and José Martí by Cuban troubadour Pablo Milanés. He has studied Cuba for nearly twenty years and in his free time lectures and writes on Cuban arts and culture. His research focuses on singer-songwriters and the contemporary music scene in Cuba. He has published numerous articles and translations and is author of *Cuban Troubadours: Nueva Trova and Contemporary Cuban Song*. The Spanish edition of that book will be published in Cuba in 2020.

Marie T. O'Toole, RN, Ed.D., FAAN, ANEF, *Professor, Associate Dean Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden*

Dr. Marie O'Toole's primary program of research is academic lexicography. Dr. O'Toole has served as the editor of multiple editions of dictionaries and encyclopedias, including the award winning Mosby Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing and Health Professions. She continues to edit the Mosby series of dictionaries.

Dr. O'Toole has been involved in international outreach related to community health, rehabilitation and curriculum development. Her work has been funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA), the Fund for Improvement of Secondary Education (FIPSE) program of the United States Department of Education and the Erasmus+ program of the European Commission on Higher Education. In 2017 she served as a Fulbright Specialist in Jordan.

Sara Plummer, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Teaching, Rutgers School of Social Work*

Dr. Plummer's area of practice include individuals, families and groups with a focus on interpersonal violence and people with disabilities. Her interests include curriculum development, assessment and online education.

David Salas-de la Cruz, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Rutgers–Camden*

Dr. David Salas-de la Cruz is an Assistant Professor for the Department of Chemistry at Rutgers University–Camden. He also serves as the Faculty Director for the Leap Academy University Charter School Fabrication Laboratory. The research of Salas is aimed at understanding the relationship between structure and natural material properties during the coagulation of polysaccharides with proteins using ionic liquids in order to design novel and tunable bio-based films for the medical, environmental and energy fields. Dr. Salas has a Ph.D. in Chemical and biomolecular Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He acquired a B.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from University of Puerto Rico in Mayaguez and a M.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from Villanova University. He has more than 15 years of industrial and academic research experience. He has worked at Kimberly-Clark, Life Scan a Johnson and Johnson Company, Rohm and Haas (Dow Chemicals) and Holtec International. He is the author of over 18 publications.

Amy Savage, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Rutgers–Camden*

Dr. Amy Savage is a community ecologist, with particular interests in understanding (i) how different natural and anthropogenic drivers of ecological change influence the structure and dynamics of ecological communities through both direct and indirect pathways and (ii) the cascading consequences of this variation for ecosystem processes and services. She received her BS from The Evergreen State College in 2002, her MS in Biology in 2004 from Western Washington University, and her PhD in 2011 from Rice University. For her dissertation, she examined the influences of a mutualism between an invasive ant (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*) and a native plant (*Morinda citrifolia*) on the structure and dynamics of local arthropod communities across the Samoan Archipelago.

Carlos Seiglie, Ph.D., *Professor, Department of Economics, Rutgers–Newark*

Dr. Silenzio scholarly work focuses on data science and mobile health research in HIV prevention, sexual and gender minority health, mental health services, and global health, with more than a dozen collaborative projects over the past decade in North America, Asia, Africa, and Australia. Dr. Silenzio is a native of Philadelphia, and an honors graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. He received his medical and public health degrees from Rutgers University, and completed residency and fellowship training at Thomas Jefferson University. Prior to joining the Rutgers faculty, Dr. Silenzio has held senior positions at Columbia University and the University of Rochester. In addition to his research and scholarly work, he has had nearly 30 years of experience as a primary care physician working in underserved community settings and caring for marginalized populations within these settings.

Wanda I. Garcia, MSW, *Associate Director Community Leadership Center, Rutgers–Camden*

Wanda Garcia is Associate Director of the Rutgers–Camden Community Leadership Center, where she oversees the Rutgers/LEAP Centers of Excellence and serves as the Board Liaison for the LEAP Academy University Charter School Trustees, while overseeing areas of administration and grants management for the entire Center. Her work has afforded her to engage in an array of activities that cover the entire spectrum of policy, program development, and strategic planning; more specifically, legislative advocacy, school law, school finance, policy development, and curriculum and instruction. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Public Affairs/Community Development doctoral program at Rutgers–Camden, where she is working on a dissertation on the charter school movement in New Jersey and its transformative impact on urban school systems over twenty-seven years from 1990 to 2017. Her study traces the charter school movement from formation through sustainability and growth, as it identifies used strategies, as well as successes and challenges in making charter schools a viable educational option for thousands of children across the state of New Jersey. She earned a B.A. in Political Science in 1984; a Master's in Social Work with a concentration in Administration and Policy in 1992 and an MS in Public Affairs in 2015 all from Rutgers University. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the NJ Public Charter Schools Association, a membership organization providing advocacy and support to charter schools in the State of New Jersey.

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