

SPRING 2021

CONTEMPORARY CUBA SPEAKERS SERIES

# Derek M. Mills

## *What's Next in U.S.-Cuba Relations?*

Moderated by Dr. I Carolina Caballero, Associate Director, CCSI

In March of 2016, Barack Obama became the first sitting president to visit Cuba since 1928. This historic event culminated a diplomatic process that included easing elements of the embargo allowing for more US investment and travel and an updated immigration policy. The Trump administration reversed this trajectory, citing Cold-War ideologies and a series of mysterious sonic episodes and health incidents affecting members of the diplomatic corps on the island. Finally, on January 11, 2021, Cuba was again added to the list of State Sponsors of Terrorism. In this talk, Mr. Mills will share his thoughts on how the Biden administration may approach a renewed relationship considering the much-changed political and social landscape in both Cuba and the US.



Derek M Mills is the Cuba Program Director for the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. A graduate of Tulane, he has served as a career diplomat in the U.S. Foreign Service of the Department of State and completed assignments to Iraq, South Sudan, Haiti, and as an embedded officer with the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC). From 2015 to 2017, he served at the U.S. Embassy in Havana, Cuba, departing upon its evacuation. At Schar, Professor Mills teaches in the International Security program and directs graduate student programs in Cuba and in Haiti.

**April 1, 2021**  
**12:30 pm CDT**

Register for the Zoom Link [here](#)  
or visit the CCSI website:  
[cuba.tulane.edu](http://cuba.tulane.edu)

*Check out our other Contemporary Cuba events*

Dr. Paolo Spadoni, "The Cuban Economy: Performance, Problems, and Prospects" [YouTube](#)

Dr. Ted A. Henken, "Who Will Control Cuba's Digital Revolution?" [YouTube](#)

Dr. Laura-Zoë Humphreys, "27N, Censorship, and the Role of the Intellectual" [YouTube](#)

More info at [cuba.tulane.edu](http://cuba.tulane.edu)



CUBAN AND CARIBBEAN  
STUDIES INSTITUTE

