

China-Cuba:

Trajectories of Post-Revolutionary Governance

Conference to be held at Tulane University

17-18 April 2015

Organized by

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With the support of:

The Center for Inter-American Policy and Research, Tulane University

The Cuban and Caribbean Studies Institute, Tulane University

The Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Tulane University

The Office of Academic Affairs and Provost, Tulane University

The New Orleans Center for the Gulf South, Tulane University

The Dunbar Fund in the Department of Political Science, Tulane University

The Asian Studies Program, Tulane University

China-Cuba: Trajectories of Post-Revolutionary Governance

DAY 1 (Friday, 17 April 2015) [Location: Lavin-Bernick Center 203 (Stibbs Room)]

Introductory remarks by Ludovico Feoli (Director, Center for Inter-American Policy and Research, Tulane University) and Ana López (Associate Provost and Director, Cuban and Caribbean Studies Institute, Tulane University) (8:30-8:45 am)

Panel 1: Political Reforms in China and Cuba (8:45-10:45 am)

Paper Presenters: Joseph Fewsmith (Boston University), “Factionalism versus Leninism: The Struggle to Maintain the Leninist Party in Contemporary China”
Bert Hoffman (GIGA Institute of Latin American Studies, Hamburg), “Political Change in Post-1989 Cuba: From Charismatic Resistance to Bureaucratic Reform”
Nara Dillon (Harvard University), “Two Worlds of Welfare Communism: China and Cuba Compared”

Discussants: Andrew Walder (Stanford University) and Carmelo Mesa-Lago (University of Pittsburgh)

COFFEE BREAK 10:45-11:00

Panel 2: Economic Reforms in China and Cuba (11:00 am-1:00 pm)

Paper Presenters: Barry Naughton (University of California San Diego), “Gradualism, Marketization and Restructuring: Does Chinese Reform through Growth Hold Practical Lessons for Cuba?”

Richard Feinberg (University of California San Diego), “Soft Landing in Cuba? Emerging Entrepreneurs and Middle Classes”

Paolo Spadoni (Georgia Regents University), “Raúl Castro’s Economic Reforms: Challenges, Evolution, and Assessment”

Discussants: Jean Oi (Stanford University) and Carmelo Mesa-Lago (University of Pittsburgh)

LUNCH (1:00-2:00 pm)

Panel 3: The Evolving Role of the Military (2:00-3:30 pm)

Paper Presenters: Peter Mattis (China Program, Jamestown Foundation), “From Model Soldiers to Professional Advisers: The Chinese Military’s Evolving Role in Governance”

Hal Klepak (Royal Military College of Canada), “Designing and Directing the Revolution’s Trajectory: The Cuban Armed Forces in the Quarter-Century 1990-2015”

Discussant: Ludovico Feoli (Tulane University)

COFFEE BREAK (3:30-3:45)

Panel 4: Changes in the Governance of Ideology and Culture (3:45-5:45 pm)

Paper Presenters: Jeffrey Wasserstrom (University of California Irvine), “Chinese Dreams and Nightmares Circa 1895, 1915, and 2015”

Abel Sierra Madero (NYU), “From the New Man to Transvestism of the State: The Discourse of Diversity as Rhetoric of ‘Transition’ in Postsocialist Cuba”

Lillian Guerra (University of Florida), “*Somos felices aquí*: The Revolutionary Theater State and the Mariel Crisis, 1971-1980”

Discussants: Elizabeth Perry (Harvard University) and Jana Lipman (Tulane University)

KEYNOTE SPEECH AND CATERED DINNER (6:30-8:30 pm)

Keynote Speaker: Carmelo Mesa-Lago (University of Pittsburgh), “A Comparative Analysis of Structural Reforms in Cuba and China”

DAY 2 (Saturday, 18 April 2015) Location: Lavin-Bernick Center 203 (Stibbs)

Panel 5: Media Governance in China (9:00-10:30 am)

Paper Presenters: Jason Q. Ng (Yale University and Information Controls Fellowship Program, Open Technology Fund/The Citizen Lab), “Justifying Censorship: Using WeChat Public Posts to Examine the Chinese Initiative to Curtail Online Lies and Falsehoods (Anti-Rumor Campaign)”

Zheng Li (Leiden University), “Media Control in Post-Revolutionary China”

Discussant: Martin Dimitrov (Tulane University)

COFFEE BREAK (10:30-10:45 am)

Panel 6: Media Governance in Cuba (10:45-12:45 pm)

Ted Henken (Baruch College), “From Cyberspace to Public Space: Cuba’s Emergent Non-State Digital Media Sphere, Changing U.S. Policy, and Cuban Civil Society”

Elaine Díaz (Univ. of Havana/Harvard University), “Blogs and Public Debate in Cuba: Debate, Questioning and Socio-Political Activism”

Martin Dimitrov (Tulane University), “*Cartas a la Dirección*: Citizen Complaints as a Source of Information on Popular Opinion in Cuba”

Discussant: Ana López (Tulane University)

LUNCH (12:45-1:30 pm)

Panel 7: Chinese Views of Reform in Cuba (1:30-3:00 pm)

Paper Presenters: Jiang Shixue (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), “A Tale of Two Socialist Countries: Cuban and Chinese Reforms Compared”

Xu Shicheng (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), “The Tortuous Course of Cuba’s Reform Since the Late 1980s: Views of a Chinese Scholar”

Discussant: Elizabeth Perry (Harvard University)

COFFEE BREAK (3:00-3:15 pm)

Panel 8: Cuban Views of Reform (3:15-4:45 pm)

Paper Presenters: Rafael Hernandez (*Temas*), “How do Dragons and Ptitirres Learn to Talk with the Eagle: Domestic Economic, Political and Cultural Corollaries”

Yinghong Cheng (Delaware State University), “A Petty-Bourgeois Ethnicity? Chinese-Cubans and Cuba’s Revolution and Reforms”

Discussant: Arachu Castro (Tulane University)

Concluding Discussion (5:00-6:00 pm) [Moderated by Martin Dimitrov] The Logic of Comparing Chinese and Cuban Trajectories of Post-Revolutionary Governance: What is unique about the respective Chinese and Cuban reform paths? What are the most important commonalities? Are there insights generated by examining China and Cuba that could be used to study governance and regime resilience in other non-democracies?

DINNER 7:00 pm (at a restaurant)