

Center for International Studies – Albuquerque International Association present

“Cuba: What Now, What Next?”

Dr. Nelson Valdes
University of New Mexico

Sunday, November 14, 2010 3:00pm – 5:00pm

At the UNM Continuing Education Conference Center
1634 University Blvd NE (at the intersection with Indian School Rd.) Plenty of Free Parking

The revolutionary generation that came to power half a century ago is rapidly slipping away. Who and what will come next? History can provide insight into the possible future of the Cuban Revolution and Cuba's relations with the United States. In his lecture, Dr. Nelson Valdez will take us over the rough and complex terrain of Cuba's past and present. He will show that the conflict between the US and Cuba did not begin in 1959, but can be traced back to before the Spanish-American war. He will remind us that for America, Cuba has never been exclusively a foreign policy issue but a domestic one as well. He will discuss the Castro brothers, the revolution they created and led, and the way that revolution reflects the importance of Cuban sovereignty and independence as permanent cultural and political values. He will conclude his sure-to-be-controversial presentation with a discussion of where Cuba may go in the years ahead and what needs to be done in order to have mutually beneficial relations between our two countries.

Dr. Nelson Valdes, a leading American expert on Cuba, was born in that country in 1945 and arrived in the US as one of the 14,068 children brought here in what would later be called "Operation Peter Pan." Dr. Valdez received his B.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of New Mexico. He taught at Glasgow University in 1972 and at the University of New Orleans from 1973 to 1976. From 1976 to 2008 he was a professor in the sociology department of UNM. He taught at Rollins College in 1991 and at Duke University in 2003 and 2004. Dr. Valdez was the creator and founder of the Latin American Data Base at UNM (the first computerized data base on that region at any university) and served as its director for 16 years. Dr. Valdez began traveling to Cuba in 1977 and in 1978 was part of a delegation that negotiated the release of over 2000 prisoners from Cuban jails. He has organized over 40 research seminar tours to the island and in 2003 took 150 New Mexican business people to Cuba. He is the author of many works on Cuban history and politics. He has lectured in Cuba and is on the board of editors of the leading social and cultural science journal in Havana.

Cost/lecture: Cost/lecture: \$15 – Members, \$20 – Non-Members

Students with a proper ID – free of charge.

Please address the check to AIA and mail it to AIA, PO Box 92995, Albuquerque, NM 87199

Please mail checks by October 4, 2010

Please check www.abqinternational.org for the full calendar of events, changes and updates.

On becoming an AIA member within 2 weeks after a lecture, \$5 will be deducted from your membership fee.

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