



SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
AND MANAGEMENT

Lund University

RESEARCH POLICY INSTITUTE

Conference Information

Lund, January 18, 2006

Information to UniDev participants at Fifth International Congress on Higher Education "UNIVERSIDAD 2006", Cuba, 13-17 February, 2006

Dear Participant,

Here is some information about the forthcoming symposium in Havana in February.

1. You have all received the tickets for your flight to Cuba. In case you still have some questions or unresolved issues, please, contact Marie at marie.hallberg@fpi.lu.se.
2. Foreigners used to pay everything in US dollars until November 2004 but since then the only accepted currency in Cuba is CUC (Cuban Convertible Pesos). Our strong recommendation is that you **bring Euros, UK Pounds or Canadian Dollars**. If you change US dollars there will be a surcharge of 10%. You can change your money into Convertible Pesos (CUC) at the air port or in the hotel. You will be able to change back the remaining Convertible Pesos at the end of your travel (keep your receipt). You can also pay with credit cards practically everywhere in Cuba and most credit cards are accepted, **except American Express**.
3. When you arrive there will be a pick up for you to take you to the hotel. In case the transfer persons fail in finding you at the airport; then please take a taxi. It should cost around 20 CUC (= 19 EURO) and note that you are not able to pay with anything else than CUC. Do not forget to keep a receipt ("recibo" in Spanish) so we can reimburse you. In fact, please make sure to **save** this and **all other receipts that you will ask us to reimburse you for**.
4. In Havana we will stay at **Hotel Nacional de Cuba**. It is centrally located and all taxi drivers know this hotel. There will be a room reserved for you with the reservation code: **Red UniDev 114719**. Please just ask for it in the hotel reception. Please view the hotel online at: www.hotelnacionaldecuba.com
5. The *weather* is pleasant - although a little chilly - in February, around 23 degrees during day, 16 in the evening. It is the dry season but still quite humid.

6. Participants

The conference itself is very big and will have around 3000 participants. The UniDev Group, however, will be part of the “*University, Science and Technology Symposium*”, with approximately 80 participants. At this stage we have no detailed information about the Cuban participants (this will hopefully be sent out in connection with the final program) but the UniDev members to take part are:

List of Participants:

Rodrigo Arocena University of the Republic, Uruguay
Claes Brundenius RPI, Lund University, Sweden
Bitrina Diaymett University Of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania
Bo Göransson RPI, Lund University, Sweden
Wang Haiyan NRCSTD, China
Marie Hallberg RPI, Lund University, Sweden
Petter Johansson LUCS, Lund University, Sweden
Long Kaiyuan NRCSTD, China
Natalia Kovaleva Higher School of Economics, Russia
Enver Motala Tshwane Univ of Technology, South Africa
José Mello Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brasil
Pedro Monreal University Havana, Cuba
Jorge Núñez Jover University of Havana, Cuba
Isarelis Pérez Onez University of Havana, Cuba
Thiago Renault Univ. Federal Fluminense, Brasil
Ulrich Schmoch ISI Fraunhofer, Germany
Judith Sutz University of the Republic, Uruguay
Edmundo Torres Godoy UNAN-León, Nicaragua
Jens Sörvik RPI, Lund University, Sweden
Nguyen Vo Hung NISTPASS, Vietnam
Jean Woo IDRC, Canada
Zhou Yuan NRCSTD, China

9. The preliminary programme

The conference is held at the International Conventions Center of Havana, February 13-17. There is simultaneous translation (English and Spanish). The conference room is equipped with all modern audiovisual facilities. We will arrange with transport from and back to the hotel every day.

The meeting is organized in thematic workshops and symposia. In our symposia each presentation shall last no more than 20 minutes to allow for a round of questions and debate, following the presentations.

You can find more info and a preliminary programme at:
<http://www.universidad2006.cu/English/ProgramaC.asp>

Apart from the conference programme we will also hold meetings in which we will discuss specifically the **Developing Universities Project**. The first meeting will be at the Hotel Nacional in the morning (09.00) of the 13th. The second meeting will be held in the afternoon on the 18th. There might also be an additional UniDev Group Meeting in the after noon on Thursday 16/2 in the Hotel Nacional. More information will be given to you about this later.

10. Week-end Activities

After the seminar (18/2) we are planning a trip to Varadero, during which we will have time for one more planning meeting of the Developing Universities Project. The agenda for this meeting will be sent to you later.

A bus will be reserved to take us from Havana to Varadero in the morning of the 18th. We will discuss the return separately with those of you who need to return earlier in order to manage in time for your flight.

Accommodation as well as other practical details will be taken care of by our local tour operator so you need not make any reservations for these extra days.

This is all for now. The final programme and more detailed info will be sent to you as we get closer to departure. Again let me emphasize that we at RPI are very pleased, indeed, that you are able to attend the symposium and we look forward to seeing you in Cuba.

For more information please contact me at Marie.Hallberg@fpi.lu.se.

Best regards,

Marie Hallberg
Project Assistant