



Building a North American Community
Economic Integration and Regulatory Cooperation in North America
November 16-17, 2007
American University
Washington D.C.

Friday, November 16

4:00 - 4:15 pm Welcome

Dr. Robert Pastor, Director - Center for North American Studies, American University
Inés Bustillo - Director, Washington Office, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Location: *Mary Graydon Center, University Club Room 4*

4:15 - 5:45 Panel I: Transaction Costs and Inadequate Infrastructure

Moderator: **Isaac Cohen** - Former Director, Washington Office, United Nations ECLAC

Presenter: **Juan Carlos Villa** - Associate Research Professor, Texas Transportation Institute, Texas A&M University - "Transaction costs in the transportation sector and infrastructure in North America: Exploring harmonization of standards"

Commentators:

Raul Rodriguez - Former President, North American Development Bank

David DeCarme - Deputy Director, Office of International Transportation and Trade, U.S. Department of Transportation

6:30 - 8:00 Dinner and Keynote Address

Introduction by **Eric Farnsworth** - Vice President, Council of the Americas

Alejandro Chacón - Chief of Staff to the Secretary of Transport and Communications, Mexico

Location: *Mary Graydon Center, University Club Rooms 5 & 6*

Saturday, November 17

Location: **Butler Boardroom**

9:00 - 10:30 Panel II: The Regulatory Dimension

Moderator: **Ambassador Anthony Quinton** - Professor, School of International Service, American University

Presenter: **Michael Hart** - Simon Reisman Professor of Trade Policy, Carleton College - "Trading Up: The Promise of North America Regulatory Convergence"

Commentators:

Neil R. Eisner - Assistant General Counsel for Regulation and Enforcement, U.S. Department of Transportation

Gary Hufbauer - Senior Fellow, Institute for International Economics

Antonio Ortiz Mena - Head of Section, Economic Affairs, Embassy of Mexico and Senior Fellow, Center for North American Studies, American University

10:30 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:30 Panel III: Agricultural Trade and Integration – A Case Study

Moderator: **Inés Bustillo** - Director, Washington Office, United Nations ECLAC

Presenters: **Ronald D. Knutson** - Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University and **Rene F. Ochoa** - Director General for Analysis and Planning at the Under-Secretariat for Agribusiness in the Ministry of Agriculture of Mexico (SAGARPA) - “Status of Agrifood Regulatory Coordination Under NAFTA”

Commentators:

Steven Zahniser – Economist, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Jeffrey Max Jones Jones - Former Senator and Undersecretary of Agriculture, Mexico

12:30 - 2:00 Lunch

2:00 - 4:00 Panel IV: Stake-Holders and the Research Agenda

Presentation: **Dr. Robert Pastor** - Director, Center for North American Studies, American University - “The Solution to North America’s Triple Problem: The Case for a North American Investment Fund”

Chair: **Stephen Randall** - Senior Fellow and Fulbright Chair in North American Studies Fellow, School of International Service, American University and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Professor of History, University of Calgary, Canada

Panel:

Adrean Rothkopf - Managing Director, North and South America and the Caribbean, Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Thea Lee - Assistant Director for International Economics, AFL-CIO

Robert Blecker - Professor of Economics, American University

Alejandro Davila - Professor, University of Coahila and Senior Fellow, Center for North American Studies, American University

Antoni Estevadeordal - Principal Advisor, Integration and Regional Programs Department, Inter-American Development Bank

Claudia Schatan - Head, International Trade and Industry Unit, UN ECLAC

4:00 - 4:30 Summing Up – Whither North America?

Jorge Mattar - Deputy Director, Mexico Office, United Nations ECLAC

Dr. Robert Pastor - Director, Center for North American Studies, American University