

Edinburgh Latin American Forum III edition – 06/05/2014

The following information was last updated in May 2014.

Speakers

José Manuel Puente – *Economist - Public Policy Analyst, Oxford University*

- Speech topic: Political economy of Venezuela after Hugo Chávez
- Panel: Development from an institutional perspective

José Manuel Puente is a Professor of the Public Policy Centre at the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administración (IESA) in Caracas. He did his B.A. in Economics at the Universidad Central de Venezuela and then completed a MSc. at The London School of Economics and a MSc. and a D.Phil at the University of Oxford. During this academic year in Oxford he is working in two different projects: A Macroeconomic History of the Bolivarian Revolution and The Political Economy of Social Spending in Venezuela. 1974-2012.

HE Werner Romero – *Ambassador, Embassy of El Salvador to the UK*

- Speech topic: The importance of economic and political integration in Latin America
- Panel: Development from an institutional perspective

Werner Matías Romero, is the Ambassador to El Salvador in the UK. Mr Romero completed a Law Degree at the Universidad Centroamericana, and studied International Policy Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California.

After serving as head of the Trade Regulations Division at the Ministry of Economy's Trade Policy Office in San Salvador, in 1997 Mr Romero was posted to the Embassy in Washington DC, where he stayed for 11 years, first as Economic Counsellor and then as Political Minister Counsellor. In the former post, Mr Romero helped negotiate the passage, in 2000, of the US-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA), a key legislative component of the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) granting increased trade benefits to Salvadoran goods exported to the US. He was also instrumental in the signing, in 2004, of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA) – the first such agreement between the US and a group of smaller developing countries.

Mr Romero worked with lawyers advising Salvadorans on Death Row, and he also appeared before Congress to lobby for immigration reforms that would bring permanent relief to at least one million of the roughly 2.5 million Salvadorans living in the US. Prior to his appointment in London, the Ambassador was Director General for Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a year-and-a-half, where he headed up a team of 60 people.

Santiago Mosquera – *Director, Latin American sovereign ratings for Fitch*

- Speech topic: Sovereign bonds in Latin America
- Panel: Development from an institutional perspective

Formerly worked as senior economist for Latin America IHS inc. He is the leading individual that prescribes the rating of sovereign bonds, for Latin American governments.

Markus Reis – *Head of Oilseeds Trading EBS, Louis Dreyfus Commodities*

- Speech topic: The importance of South America in the Commodity flows: focus on Oilseeds
- Panel: Small and medium businesses and corporations

Juan Savino – *Director of Research, Latin American Private Equity & Venture Capital*

- Speech topic: Overview of private equity and venture capital, the evolving entrepreneurial ecosystem and the availability of capital in Latin America.
- Panel: Small and medium businesses and corporations.

Juan Savino is LAVCA's Director of Research, taking on the role in May 2011 to guide the expansion of LAVCA's research products for its members and the Latin America PE/VC community. Juan has contributed to the organization's research efforts as an Analyst since June 2009.

Prior to joining LAVCA, Juan was Research Analyst at Bloomberg LP in London, the leading global provider of financial data, news and analytics. Before Bloomberg, Juan was Strategy Analyst at Argentina's National Investment Development Agency, where he developed sector-focused research to encourage foreign direct investments in the country. During that period, he was also an assistant teacher in the subject of Corporate Finance at Universidad de San Andres. Juan also has experience in the venture capital industry, where he was an Associate at Aconcagua Ventures, a VC firm acquiring minority position in high-growth potential Latin American small and medium enterprises.

Juan holds a MSc in Finance from Universidad del CEMA and a BS in Business Administration from Universidad de San Andres. He is a native Spanish speaker, fluent in English, proficient in Italian, and conversational in Portuguese.

Luke Openshaw – *Executive Director, TECHO EU*

- Speech topic: Poverty in a comparative framework. Access to fundamental resources.
- Panel: Tackling poverty and marginalization: Education and community building

Luke Openshaw is currently responsible for European Communications from Techo's London office. His previous positions included Branding Latin America, Enterprise Ireland and Tower House Counselling.

Juan Andres Santelices – *Founder and Director, Fair Business Alliance Ltd*

- Speech topic: Empowering people through ethical trade
- Panel: Tackling poverty and marginalization: Education and community building

Fair Business Alliance was created in 2009 by Juan Andres Santelices, a Forest Engineer and entrepreneur with extensive experience of supporting international development through ethical, fair and sustainable trade. Keen to make a positive difference to people's lives, Juan Andres saw an opportunity to apply his 15 years of experience and skills in international development and sustainable trade to support small businesses in developing countries. He speaks English, German, Spanish and Portuguese.

Since 1995, Juan Andres Santelices has built up experience working with third, second and primary level producer organisations, cooperatives, associations, small forest enterprises, fishers communities, certification bodies, governmental institutions, NGO's, ethical financial institutions, importers, distributors and wholesalers. He is committed to supporting trade to help eradicate poverty and bring social justice to disadvantaged communities, while respecting and protecting the environment. He has also provided capacity training to producers and communities in more than 10 countries from Latin America, Asia and the South Pacific Islands and has extensive experience in opening markets and supplying products to the European market.

Jordan Fleary – *Graduate Recruiter, Teach First*

- Speech topic: Teach First role in development of Latin America
- Panel: Tackling poverty and marginalization: education and community building

Teach First is an education charity working in partnership with schools and other organisations to break the link between low family income and poor educational attainment. Mr. Jordan Fleary is responsible for attracting inspirational graduates from The University of Edinburgh and The University of St Andrews and encouraging undergraduates to apply to the Teach First Leadership Development Programme.