



Texas A&M International University
23RD ANNUAL
WESTERN HEMISPHERIC TRADE CONFERENCE
April 3-5, 2019 | Laredo, Texas, USA

Texas A&M International University's (TAMIU) 23rd Annual Western Hemispheric Trade Conference strives to bring together academic researchers, practitioners, and policy makers to discuss an array of topics affecting the Western Hemisphere in today's global business world. The Conference is sponsored by TAMIU, the A. R. Sanchez, Jr. School of Business, and the Center for the Study of Western Hemispheric Trade (CSWHT), in partnership with México's Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas Facultad de Comercio, Administración y Ciencias Sociales.

In addition to concurrent academic sessions held in both English and Spanish, our Conference will include:

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS:

Hegemony and the Hemisphere: An Historical Perspective on Inter-American Trade Relations by Dr. Craig VanGrasstek, Adjunct Lecturer in Public Policy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Contemporary U.S. Immigration: Is it a Good Deal for Americans? by Dr. Steven A. Camarota, Director of Research, Center for Immigration Studies **(Luncheon Keynote Address)**

The New Triangular Relationship between the US, China, and Mexico: New Challenges since 2019 by Dr. Enrique Dussel Peters, Professor and Coordinator of the Center for México-China Studies, School of Economics, National Autonomous University of México **(Luncheon Keynote Address)**

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS:

The Economics of Immigration Restriction by Dr. Annie L. Cot, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne; and Dr. Alexandre Padilla, Metropolitan State University of Denver

BBVA Compass Bank Chair Presentation by Dr. George R. G. Clarke, BBVA Compass Bank Group Chair, Texas A&M International University

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Seating is limited. Cost to attend is \$25 per person per luncheon.

To register, please visit <https://form.jotform.com/90624487069163>
or contact the CSWHT at 956.326.2820 or cswht@tamiu.edu.



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ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



CRAIG VANGRASSTEK, PH.D.

“Craig VanGrasstek,” according to *The Economist* (January 22, 2000), “keeps a sharp eye on the politics of trade.” His areas of expertise include trade negotiations and the policymaking process, the history and structure of the international trading system, and the relationships between trade, power, and development. Dr. VanGrasstek teaches courses on trade policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, both in its degree program and in executive education. He previously taught courses on international economic relations in the American University’s School of International Service (1994-2001), the University of Bern’s World Trade Institute (2007-2016), and the International Economic Law and Policy program in the University of Barcelona (2008-2017), and also delivered an innovative course on the fiction of foreign policy in Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service (2006-2009). He has lectured in the diplomatic academies and training programs of the United Kingdom, the United States, and 10 other countries.

Dr. VanGrasstek has been a trade consultant since 1982. He has worked in over four dozen countries on five continents, with his clients including government agencies, corporations, and such international organizations as the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization.

He received his doctorate in Politics from Princeton University in 1997, holds the degree of Master of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University (1983), and earned a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from the University of Minnesota (1981). Dr. VanGrasstek is the author of *The History and Future of the World Trade Organization* (WTO: 2013) and *Trade and American Leadership: The Paradoxes of Power and Wealth from Alexander Hamilton to Donald Trump* (Cambridge University Press: 2019), as well as numerous other books, chapters, journal articles, and monographs.

HEGEMONY AND THE HEMISPHERE: AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE
ON INTER-AMERICAN TRADE RELATIONS

Wednesday, April 3, 2019 | Evening Keynote Address | 6 p.m.

Sponsored by IBC Bank and Commerce Bank

From Alexander Hamilton through Donald Trump, U.S. economic relations with Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean have been shaped by broader struggles between great powers. Hegemonic stability theory posits that the shape of the international trading system relies critically on the global distribution of power and wealth, such that markets tend to be closed, unless one especially powerful country is willing and able to lead. That willingness stems from the country’s economic efficiency, while its ability rests on political and military strength. London provided hegemonic leadership in the 19th Century, and Washington played this role in the 20th Century. The latter half of that century saw the United States fend off challenges from one rival that was powerful but not wealthy (the Soviet Union) and another that was wealthy but not powerful (Japan)—but the 21st Century is dominated by a full-spectrum competition between the United States and China. This talk will review how these successive battles for hegemony have shaped inter-American trade relations, with special emphasis on how we arrived at our present predicament and where we may be headed.



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STEVEN A. CAMAROTA, PH.D.

Steven A. Camarota is Director of Research at the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington, D.C. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia in Public Policy Analysis, and a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania. In recent years, he has testified before Congress more than any other non-government expert on the economic and fiscal impact of immigration.

His research has been featured on the front pages of *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*, as well as various other media outlets. He has written for academic journals and general interest publications including *Foreign Policy*, *Social Science Quarterly*, and *the Chicago Tribune*. He appears frequently on radio and television news programs including *CNN*, *Fox News Channel*, *NBC Nightly News*, *ABC World News Tonight*, *CBS Evening News*, *National Public Radio*, and *PBS NewsHour*.

CONTEMPORARY U.S. IMMIGRATION:
IS IT A GOOD DEAL FOR AMERICANS?

Thursday, April 4, 2019 | Luncheon Keynote Address | 12 noon

Sponsored by Falcon Bank

Dr. Camarota will examine the fiscal and economic impact of immigration from the perspective of American citizens. There is no question that the American economy is larger because of immigration—more people means a larger economy. However, the more important question is: Does immigration increase per-capita GDP? Moreover, who gains from immigration, and equally important, who loses? One must also consider the impact on taxpayers. Camarota will explore these questions and more.



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ENRIQUE DUSSEL PETERS, PH.D.

Dr. Enrique Dussel Peters has been a professor at the Graduate School of Economics at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) since 1993. He is also a consultant for several Mexican and international institutions.

Dr. Dussel Peters earned a B.A. and M.A. in Political Science at the Free University of Berlin, and a Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Notre Dame. His research interests include economic development, political economy, industrial organization and trade theory, NAFTA and CAFTA, TPP and CPTPP, evolution of industrial trade, and regional patterns in Latin America and México. He also conducts research on specific segments of commodity chains, such as pineapples, lemons, electronics, yarn-textile-garments, auto parts-automobiles, footwear, and pharmaceuticals, among others, and increasingly with a comparative (México/Latin America-China) perspective. Dr. Dussel Peters has conducted a group of studies and respective publications of China's overseas foreign direct investment (OFDI) in Latin America and México and of Mexican firms in China.

Dussel Peters has served as the Coordinator of the Area of Political Economy at the Graduate School of Economics at UNAM (2004-2008), Director of the Center for Chinese-Mexican Studies at UNAM (since 2006), and Director of the Latin American and Caribbean-China Academic Network.

**THE NEW TRIANGULAR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE US, CHINA, AND MÉXICO: NEW CHALLENGES SINCE 2019**

Friday, April 5, 2019 | Luncheon Keynote Address | 1 p.m.

Sponsored by BBVA Compass

Since the 21st Century, China's presence in each of the NAFTA countries has increased dramatically, as well as in the region. From this perspective, Dr. Dussel Peters will highlight the increasing presence of China in particular chapters of the Harmonized Tariff System and, in specific, value-added chains of the region. Dussel Peters will not only examine results of the United States-México-Canada (USMCA) Agreement in 2018, but a group of socioeconomic issues relevant for the future of the NAFTA-region with China.



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ALEXANDRE PADILLA, PH.D.

Alexandre "Alex" Padilla is an Associate Professor of Economics and the Director of the Exploring Economic Freedom Project at the Metropolitan State University of Denver. The Exploring Economic Freedom Project is dedicated to educating students and the general public about the role of economic and political freedom in promoting entrepreneurship, economic growth, prosperity, and peace.

Dr. Padilla has published several academic articles on insider trading in the *Quarterly Journal of Austrian Economics*, *Commentaries in Law & Economics*, *Florida State Business Review*, *Journal of Law, Economics, and Policy*, and other non-academic essays. His current research looks at the effects of

immigration on institutions. His most recent article published in *Public Choice* examines the impact of immigration in the United States on the economic institutions that contributed to US economic growth and prosperity.

Dr. Padilla earned his B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. in Economics from the University Paul Cezanne (also known as the University of Law, Economics, and Science of Aix-Marseille 3) in France.

THE GRECIAN HORSE: DO IMMIGRANTS IMPORT THEIR
HOME COUNTRY'S INSTITUTIONS INTO THEIR HOST COUNTRIES?

THE CASE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Thursday, April 4, 2019 | Panel Presentation | 2 p.m.

Concerns about the institutional impact of immigration, particularly in the United States, are not new. We can trace them back to Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton. More recently, in response to a literature that questions the desirability of current immigration restrictions, Borjas (2015) speculates that immigrants coming from countries with poor institutions could substantially reduce the institutional quality in the U.S. to a point where it could negate all economic gains associated with immigration in terms of GDP and income. Dr. Padilla will provide an overview of the results of his research, attempting to measure the impact of immigrants and, more particularly, naturalized citizens on the American states' institutions. Padilla and his co-author, Nicolás Cachanosky, investigate how the impact might vary depending on the institutional quality of the origin countries of immigrants. They also examine whether immigrants' educational attainment matters. The Economic Freedom of North America Index is used as a proxy for the quality of the economic institutions of the states. The NOMINATE measure of state government ideology and citizen ideology developed in Berry et al. (2010) is used as another measure of quality of political institutions. Their results show that, in the short run, they do observe that the relationship between migrants originating from countries with poor economic institutions and economic freedom is negative, but, in the longer run, that relationship becomes positive, particularly in the area of labor market freedom. On the other hand, in the longer run, they find that migrants coming from countries ranked in the top quartile of the Economic Freedom of the World Report have a negative impact on the economic freedom of the U.S. states. When it comes to immigrants' impact on ideology, they find that immigrants originating from countries with better economic institutions tend to move state and citizen ideologies toward a more liberal position on the ideological spectrum in the short run. However, over the longer run, immigrants from countries with freer economic institutions tend to push state and citizen ideologies toward a more conservative position on the spectrum. Their results are robust to various specifications.

Berry, W. D., Fording, R. C., Ringquist, E. J., Hanson, R. L., and Klerner, C. E. 2010. Measuring Citizen and Government Ideology in the U.S. States: A Re-appraisal. *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, 10(2): 117-135.

Borjas, George J. 2015. Immigration and Globalization: A Review Essay. *Journal of Economic Literature*, American Economic Association, Vol. 53(4): 961-974.



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GEORGE R. G. CLARKE, PH.D.

Dr. George R. G. Clarke is the BBVA Compass Bank Group Distinguished Chair of International Economics and Finance, and the interim Chair for the Division of International Business and Finance Studies at the A. R. Sanchez, Jr. School of Business, Texas A&M International University. He also serves as editor of *The International Trade Journal*.

His academic research focuses on privatization and competition in banking and infrastructure and on the impact of corruption on firm performance and growth.

He has published over 40 papers in academic journals and books including in the *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, and *Journal of Law and Economics*.

Before joining Texas A&M International University, he was a senior private sector development specialist at the World Bank. While at the World Bank, he worked in the Africa Region, the Europe and Central Asia Region, and the Development Research Group. He was also one of the core team members that wrote the *2005 World Development Report: A Better Investment Climate for Everyone*.

He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Rochester and his BA in Mathematics and Economics from Cornell University.

BBVA COMPASS BANK CHAIR PRESENTATION

Friday, April 5, 2019 | 10:20 a.m.

BBVA Compass