SAU and Cuba

Working Towards Faculty/Student Exchange
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Background

- I lived in Havana from 1957-1960 (8 to 11 Y.O.)
- My father was a State Dept Foreign Service Officer
- We arrived on the ferry from Key West and left in a DC 3
- Cuba was the third Latin American country we lived in, previously we lived in Bogota and Buenos Aires
- After, we lived in Santiago de Chile from 1960-1963
- This trip was my first time back to Latin America

People to People vs Tourists

- The only two ways for US citizens to travel to Cuba today are through People to People Programs or Educational Programs
- Cuba, however, considers us tourists, but the USA does not.

Arriving with AR Chamber of Commerce



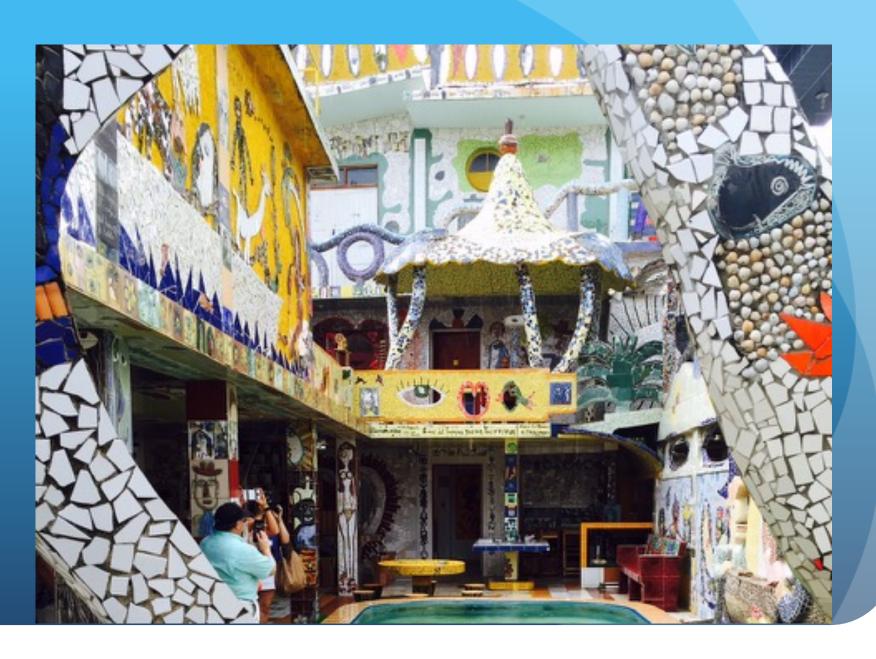
Jose Fuster



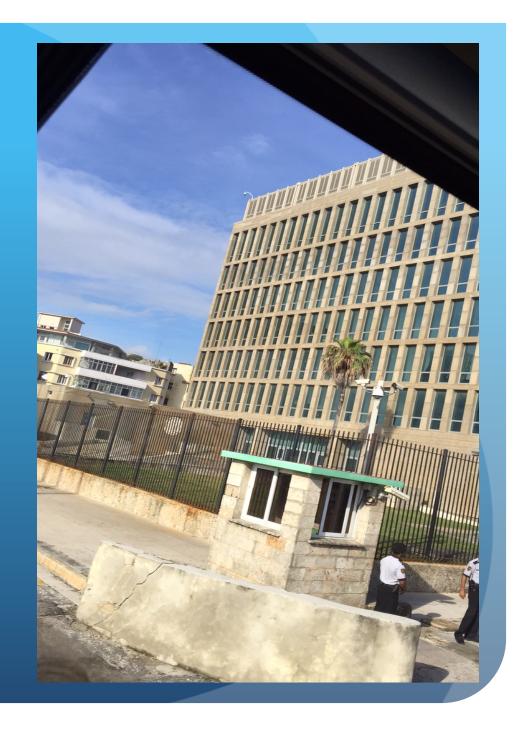
Jose Fuster's House I



Jose Fuster's House II



The American Embassy



Old Havana: The Cathedral (1777)



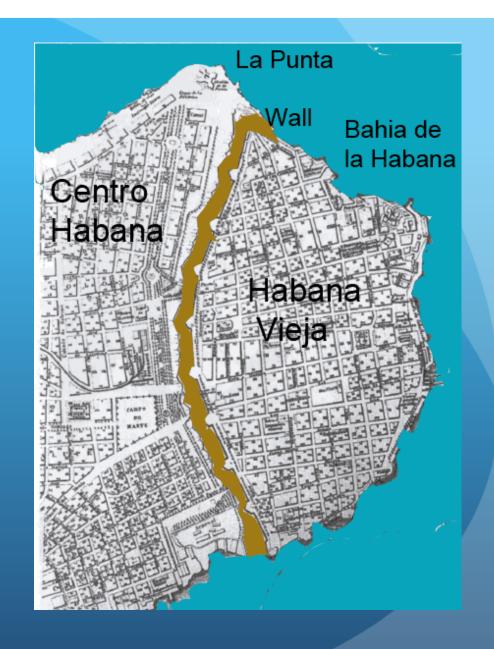
Old Havana: Oldest Fort (1575)



Remnant of City Wall



Original
City Wall
(torn
down in
the 1860s)



Old Havana: Junipero Serra



Old Havana: Plaza de Armas



Old Havana: Bodeguita del Medio



One of the best places for a Mojito:



Old Havana: Calle Mercaderes I



Old Havana: Calle Mercaderes II



Old Havana: Street Musicians



Old Havana: Hemingway's Bar I



Old Havana: Hemingway's Bar II



Central Havana: Capitol



Central Havana: Capitol



Central Havana: Gas Station



Central Havana: Street Corner



Central Havana: Laundry



Central Havana: Havana Hilton



Central Havana: Policeman



Central Havana: Street Scene I



Central Havana: Street Scene II



Central Havana: Street Scene III



Food

- Tourists eat much better than the locals
- We got tired of eating lobster
- Beef is rare and not recommended
- Locals shop in neighborhood markets using ration cards and money
- Fruits and vegetables available

Food: Local Market I



Food: Local Market II



Food: Local Market III



Food: Local Market IV



Food: Local Market V



Food: Ration Card



Food: Empty Shelves



Education: Universidad de la Habana



Education: Universidad de la Habana Office of Intl. Relations I



Education: Universidad de la Habana Office of Intl Relations II



Education: Universidad de Ciencias Informaticas



Education: Ministry of Higher Education I



Ministry of Higher Education II



Education: Ministry of Higher Education III



Education: Ministry of Higher Education IV



Vehicles

- I'm good at identifying cars of the 1950s and 1960s
- I got tired of doing it after a while!
- Taxi driving is a source of income for many Cubans
- Many have been converted to diesel
- Transportation is a daily problem for many

Cars I: 1958 Chevrolet Impala



Cars II: 1954 Chevrolet BelAir



Cars III: 1957 Ford Fairlane



Cars IV: Convertibles



Digging Up My Roots: Ruston Academy



Digging Up My Roots: Ninth Birthday Party (1958)



Digging Up My Roots: Same field (2015)



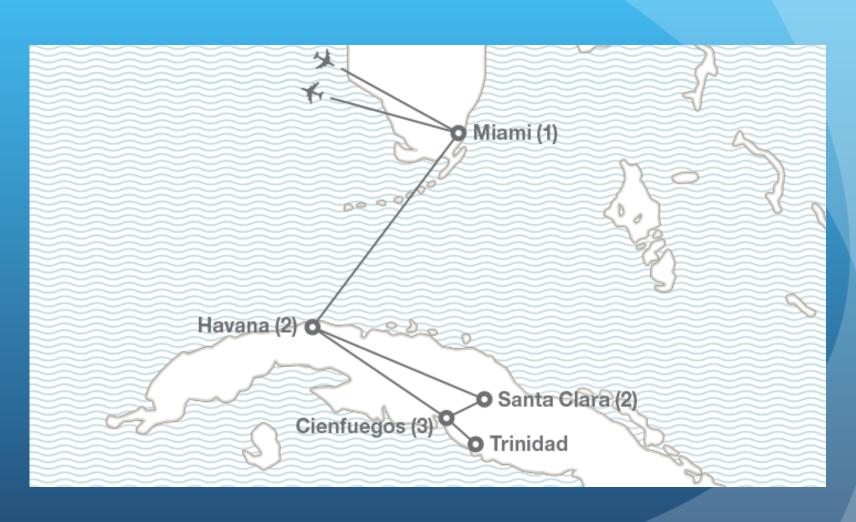
Cubans Who Travel



Universidad 2016 (15-19 Feb): SAU will send two delegates



EF Tour of Cuba: May 2016 (9 days, \$3,500) anyone can go



Faculty/Student Exchange: SAU's Attractions

- Decorative Concrete
- Marine Biology
- Gaming
- Agricultural Science
- ESL/Cultural Exchange
- Delegates will take brochures in Spanish to Cuba describing the above academic programs

Faculty/Student Exchange: Travel to Cuba

- Marine Biology research
- Spanish immersion
- Decorative Concrete projects in Cuba
- SAU Courses (in Spanish)

Faculty/Student Exchange: Funding

- Problematical
 - No money in Cuba
 - SAU's programs must be self-sustaining
 - Language Barriers
- SAU Foundation
 - Seeks money for ALL student travel
 - Has provided scholarships (50%) for student travel
- Cuba
 - Could provide board and lodging for SAU students/faculty

Conclusions

- This will be a long project
- It will start small
- It will depend on political change (e.g., the Embargo)
- It's closer for SAU students than China or Europe
- Many other universities are gearing up for similar programs, ours has to stand out
- It's time

Acknowledgements

- W. Derrell Rogers
- Rotary
- David Sixbey
- David Rankin
- Trey Berry
- Jeanie Bismark and Josh Kee
- Arkansas Chamber of Commerce

Sunset Looking North

