

Dr. Frederick “Rick” Van Sant
Executive Director – Go Global NC



Dr. Frederick “Rick” Van Sant, Executive Director at Go Global NC, is responsible for providing leadership and oversight to the organization, and serves as a liaison to its board, partners, and University of North Carolina System leadership.

Rick brings a wealth of international experience in higher education and the private sector. Prior to joining Go Global NC, he was the Senior International Education Strategist for Blackboard, a global education technology company. Based in Abu Dhabi, Rick traveled and worked with universities, governments, and industries in more than 15 countries.

Previously, Rick worked for more than 30 years in higher education, holding rank as a full tenured professor and serving as an administrator in both the United States and the United Arab Emirates. Rick also served as the head of USAID’s \$58 million education reconstruction project in post-war El Salvador.

Rick earned his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Purdue University, a Master of Arts in Education from the University of South Florida, and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from UNC-Chapel Hill. Rick was born in Panama, grew up in Mexico City, and has lived and worked in countries across the world.

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About Go Global NC

Go Global NC, part of the UNC System since 1979, designs and manages programs that build the capacity of policy leaders, educators, students, and business and community leaders to enable North Carolina to succeed in a global economy and increasingly interdependent world. Visit goglobalnc.org to learn how Go Global NC connects North Carolina and the world.