GLOBAL LEADERS
SINGAPORE/TOKYO - 2016

Empowering North Carolina to compete in a global world

understand. connect. act.
Expanding economic ties with Asian partners Singapore and Tokyo was the focus of the 2016 Global Leaders program. Twenty-two North Carolina policy, business, and education leaders met the people and programs behind robust science and technology sectors. The hands-on international experience forged new relationships to foster global jobs and foreign direct investment in North Carolina. Go Global NC and NC State University’s Global Training Initiative conducted the program to Singapore and Tokyo in March.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Briefings from U.S. Embassy officials in Tokyo and Singapore about trade and investments.
- Recognition of the importance of higher education partnerships between North Carolina and Singapore that serve as global laboratories of innovation. Linkages include National University of Singapore (NUS) (with Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill) and Singapore Institute for Technology (with UNC-Chapel Hill, NC State University, and Duke).
- Deeper understanding of the potential to attract foreign direct investment and jobs to North Carolina through health research: training medical doctors and biomedical engineers as well as advancing medical technology and vaccines.
WHY SINGAPORE?

Singapore is a major entry point to Asian markets that represent many new potential customers for North Carolina products. Half the world’s population can be reached from the Port of Singapore.

WHY TOKYO?

Japanese companies provide 25,000 jobs in North Carolina. Latest: Morinaga & Co., Ltd. has selected Mebane for its first U.S.-based plant to manufacture candy for global distribution. The $48 million investment means new jobs.

NEXT STEPS

The 2016 Global Leaders Delegation will

- Revitalize the legislative International Business and Trade Caucus, the only committee of its kind in a state legislature. This working group will focus on helping position North Carolina for global economic success.

- Partner with the N.C. Community College system to increase coordination among education, workforce training, and economic development activities in North Carolina aimed at attracting high-paying global jobs.

- Serve as “ambassadors” to continue to strengthen North Carolina’s educational and economic ties with Singapore and Tokyo.

“North Carolina is fortunate to have forged strong economic ties with Japan ...(Morinaga’s investment) recognizes successful efforts at both the state and local level to recruit desirable jobs to Orange County.”

-Sen. Valerie Foushee

“There is so much potential to do business with Japan and Singapore. We live in a global society and it’s time we start lining up economic opportunities for our state.”

-Rep. Donny Lambeth
Thank you to our program sponsors:

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