



# **2025 World Trade Summit**

## **North Carolina: A Gateway to Global Commerce**

**Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**

- **5:00 – 6:00 PM**      **Opening Reception**
- **6:00 – 8:00 PM**      **Keynote Dinner & Speakers**



**Lisa Bamford**



**Ethel Torres**



**Elaine Marshall**



**Christopher Chung**

## **EVENING PROGRAM**

### **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Lisa Bamford, Director of Global Marketing & Business Development at Sciencix

### **Mistress of Ceremonies**

Ethel Torres, CEO & President at National Drug Source

### **Keynote 1 Address**

Elaine Marshall, North Carolina Secretary of State

### **Keynote 2 Address**

Christopher Chung, CEO at Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina



- 8:00 – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 – 10:00 AM Growing Your International Business  
*Interactive Panel Discussion*



Tom Cook



David Jones



Nicole Murphey



Thomas Matthias

**Moderator:** Tom Cook, Managing Director of Blue Tiger International

**Panelists:**

- David Jones, Partner at GreerWalker CPA
- Nicole Murphey, Partner at Michael Best
- Thomas Matthias, Senior VP of Global Trade Finance at Regions Bank

- 10:25 – 11:00 AM Global Gateway: NC Ports



**Featured Speaker:** Brian Clark  
Executive Director of NC Port Authority

- 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM Navigating Global Markets  
*Interactive Panel Discussion*



Jonathan Szucs



Steve Hawkins



Sam McClure



Drew Brown

**Moderator:** Jonathan Szucs, President of Advanced Superabrasives Inc.

**Panelists:**

- Steve Hawkins, National Sea Logistics Trade Development Manager at Kuehne Nagel
- Sam McClure, Director of Compliance and Customs at CV International
- Drew Brown, VP of Business Development at Arc Transit Logistics

- **12:30 – 1:30 PM** **Lunch Keynote Speaker: Mike Fox**  
*The Triad Region: A Global Perspective*



**Mike Fox**  
*President of Piedmont Triad Partnership*

- **1:45 – 2:30 PM** **What's Up With Shipping?**  
**Featured Speaker: Salvatore Mergogliano, PhD**



**Salvatore Mergogliano, PhD**  
*Maritime Historian at Campbell University &  
Host of "What's Going on with Shipping"*

- **2:45 – 3:00 PM** **Closing Remarks with Lisa Bamford**  
**& Summit Adjournment**



**Lisa Bamford**  
*Director of Global Marketing &  
Business Development at Sciencix*

*Thank you for joining us for the 2025 NCWTA Global Trade Summit,  
and please join us next year in Charlotte, our 2026 host city!*