Douglas Cameron

Founder, Alberti Advisors

Doug Cameron is Founder and Managing Director of Alberti Advisors, a venture advisory firm with business, science and engineering expertise in clean technology and agriculture. Prior to founding Alberti Advisors, Doug was Chief Science Advisor and Managing Director in the cleantech investment banking group at Piper Jaffray, a global investment bank headquartered in Minneapolis.

From 2006-2008, Doug was chief scientific officer at Khosla Ventures, a premier Silicon Valley-based cleantech venture capital firm. With Khosla, Doug led technical due diligence for many of the firm's investments and served on the board of directors for Mascoma, Gevo, LS9, Segetis, Lanzatech, Kior and Draths. Doug also served as acting CEO for Gevo, LS9 and Segetis. From 1998-2006, Doug worked at Cargill, Inc. where he built and led Cargill's corporate biotechnology research group. While at Cargill, Doug interacted closely with NatureWorks, Cargill's bioplastics joint venture, helping to form an industrial bio-products business unit. From 1986-2000, Doug was a professor of chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. While at Wisconsin, he consulted for several leading companies, including Cargill, DuPont and Genencor.

In 2009, Doug was the recipient of the prestigious Raphael Katzen Award for his contributions in furthering the deployment and commercialization of biotechnology to produce fuels and chemicals from renewable resources.

Doug graduated magna cum laude from Duke University with a BSE in biomedical engineering and earned a PhD in biochemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Title: Biomass Conversion: State of the Field and Future Directions

Abstract: Biomass is derived from carbon dioxide by way of photosynthesis. This talk will provide a broad overview of biomass production and its conversion to fuels and chemicals. In the interest of framing the topic, the entire value chain will be considered, from organism design and development to harvesting and transportation logistics to production of reactive intermediates to conversion to products and beyond. Finally, this talk will explore future scientific, technical and business opportunities related to biomass.