

DOUGLAS MUNDIE

PROFILE

Senior commercial leader and university governor with extensive experience across Scottish higher education, public funding, international manufacturing, research commercialisation and entrepreneurial business development. Former Deputy Chair of the Scottish Funding Council and former member of the University of St Andrews Court. Experienced in financial scrutiny, governance reform, supporting academic enterprise and developing people and partnerships.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC STEWARDSHIP

Scottish Funding Council | Board Member and Deputy Chair, 2014–2021. Appointed by Scottish Ministers; Deputy Chair from 2019. Chaired Finance, Remuneration and Capital Decision Point Committees; served on Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee. Oversight within an organisation responsible for approximately £2.1bn of public funding for Scotland's universities and colleges.

University of St Andrews | Court member, 1994–2004. Chaired Audit Committee for seven years; led a governance working group responding to the Dearing and Cadbury reports. Subsequently co-opted to support transition following changes to Court membership.

UNIVERSITY ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION

Technology Ventures Scotland | Founding Chief Executive, 2000–2004. Built an organisation, funded by the Scottish Executive, connecting Scottish universities, research institutes, public bodies and businesses. Secured £9m in grant funding to support collaboration and commercial application of research.

SMRU Ltd / SOI Group, University of St Andrews | Founding non-executive, Managing Director and Group Commercial Director, 2006–2013. Developed commercial activities based on marine research, including international operations in North & South America and Hong Kong. Grew SMRU turnover to approximately £1.5m within three years; supported development of new graduate and PhD-level roles and reinvestment in academic research.

CuanTec Ltd | Founding director and Chair, 2017–2022. Chaired an innovative Scottish biotechnology business developing sustainable materials from shellfish waste, including alternatives to fossil-based plastics. Supported its commercial development and strategic positioning, culminating in the acquisition of a majority shareholding by Hive Energy Ltd in January 2022.

University of St Andrews | International student recruitment. Spent five years developing recruitment relationships in South America, including Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru; supported undergraduate recruitment and university partnerships.

COMMERCIAL AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

Saltire Business Solutions | Founder and Managing Director, 2000–2026. Advised growing businesses on strategy, academic partnerships and access to specialist research expertise.

M.Y. Plastics | Divisional Sales and Marketing Director, 1998–2000. Responsibility across three sites, approximately 700 staff and turnover exceeding £55m; managed integration and European market development.

Earlier leadership | Low & Bonar / Bonar Teich Flexibles, Lin Pac, Borden and Metal Box. Managing Director in Dundee and senior commercial, operational and international product-development roles. Led innovative packaging launches, including early commercial introduction of high-barrier squeezable sauce bottles in the UK.

OTHER BOARD AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Executive Chair, The Ness Foundation (research turnaround and laboratory funding as part of UHI); board and chair roles at Fusion (Scotland); non-executive director, FUREAI; Trustee & Vice-Chair, St Andrews Harbour Trust (2019–present); Member of Institute of Directors for over 30 years, elected Fellow in 2021.

EDUCATION

MA (Honours), English Language and Literature, University of St Andrews (2:1). Manchester Business School Executive Development Programme.