

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/blog/videos/angel-investing>

Penchina discusses his interest and involvement in angel investing.



Transcript

Seems to be the hobby de jure in the valley.. Have been an angel investor for about 8 years now.. And basically, as eBay got bigger, this is my chance to reconnect with startups and I did it because it was fun and I got to work on little projects and watch some of them become big and I've done probably 30 or 40 of them for the last 8 years ranging from social networking linked in being one that maybe some of the students know about to search to a bunch of community-related stuff.. I don't know that I have like a magic answer on angel investing.. I do it for 2 reasons and for what it's worth.. This is what I'm doing since school is I like to find areas outside what I'm doing where I can learn skills that I think will be useful for where I'm trying to go.. So when I was in school, I used to volunteer to be a leader in various organizations because I wanted to learn leadership skills.. I invested in startups because I wanted to learn how to be a startup CEO and I want to learn how to be a board member and nobody was offering me a chance to be a CEO of a startup or board member so I said well I'm going to go invest some money and spend my own time on it and I'll learn.. I'm a big believer and if you know where you want to go, you can find ways outside of the primary thing you spend your time on, volunteer work with non-profits, investing, you name it.. It always weights to gain the skills that you want to get even if people won't give it to you in your day job...