

Stanford eCorner

Bitten by the Bug

16-01-2013

URL: https://stvp.stanford.edu/clips/bitten-by-the-bug

Surgeon and Skai Ventures Founder Dr. Hank Wuh describes how he was bitten by the entrepreneurial bug while completing his medical training at Stanford. Wuh explains he became interested in business and commercialization by identifying problems that needed to be solved in the operating room.



Transcript

Do you mind describing the moment where you kind of walked out of med school and made the decision to go more of the innovation path as opposed to the standard medical practice? What was it that caused one direction versus the other? It was when my Cadillac caught on fire.. So I actually didn't walk from medical school into business, I came to Stanford, to do my trainee as a surgeon.. And so I got into Stanford, I was resident, I was chief residents, but being a surgeon and being at Stanford it was just a great place because everyone was entrepreneurial and sort of the concept being creative and problem-solving was all around you.. So I was very much bitten by the bug.. So the idea was really to look for problems to solve in the operating room because there are many and eventually we got into the business of creating, inventing devices and solutions that could solve these problems and we discover sure enough there are people who would invest and pay large sums of reward for coming with a great solution.. And that's how that transformation eventually took place.. And when the Cadillac caught on fire, it really crystallized everything else, so...