



Stanford eCorner

The Excitement of Working in Venture Capital

Lisa Lambert, *Intel Capital*

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If you're thinking of a career in the VC realm, listen to Intel Capital's Vice President Lisa Lambert speak with passion about the dynamics of the job. She is enthusiastic about the diversity and education that the job requires, and she tremendously enjoys shopping with the company's \$16 billion checkbook. She highly recommends this career path for those who like frequent change, broad networking, and breaking new conceptual ground.



Transcript

What makes you want to get up in the morning? What is it that - obviously you the way you talk you really love what you're doing. What is it about what you're doing that really fires you up? It's essentially - for the women in the audience. It's like you got a really big pocketbook with a lot of money in it and you can go shop everyday. It's a no brainer. OK, come on it's a no brainer. So, we've got this resource, 16 billion in cash from Intel, which is not pocket change. And we get to work with the most innovative and interesting creative minds in the world, not just in the Valley; in the world. It's the most dynamic job, in that one day I'm focused on cloud companies, the next day I'm focused on mobile companies, the next day I'm focused on software and service, and the next day I'm focused on clean tech software. I mean, it's so dynamic that the technology acumen and the business acumen that you need to develop to be able to do that efficiently is tremendous. And so, it keeps you on your toes.

It keeps you sharp. It keeps me studying. It keeps me reading. It keeps me talking to companies and talking to smart people. I network with those people because I'm learning from them. So if you like dynamic, if you like change, if you like innovation, if you want to be a thought leader Allah, the reason that we're here today, the thought leader class, then it's a great place for you because that essentially what we do. And we get to go and invest Intel's money... Right. ...in ideas and in concepts that we believe in. And even more gratifying is that we get to see the end result of it.

We get to invest when it's an idea and we get to see an exit as in the case of JBoss, one of my companies, or in the case of DATAlegro, another one of my companies, or MySQL, another one of my companies. We get to see from start to finish a company, a team, a product, mature and develop and really meet the needs of its customer base. It's so gratifying, very gratifying, so that gets me excited. I love my job and you should love your job. Don't do anything you don't love.