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HST.939 Designing and Sustaining Technology Innovation for Global Health Practice  
Spring 2008

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Spring 2008** **Notes taken for OCW by student**

Lecture 5: 3/4/08  
David Berry

Entered Harvard med with intention to get an M.D.

Early on in med school career, became interested in entrepreneurship

- Began cigarette company that removed dangerous materials and carcinogens from cigarettes, based on the development of dialdehyde starches as binders of AGEs.
- Co-founded Viacell Neuroscience, worked on drugs that could cross the blood-brain barrier (dFGF2) to treat stroke patients. The company was not terribly successful; company eventually bought out.
  - o The drug actually promoted functional recovery without changing the amount of brain tissue that was actually damaged by stroke.
- vacuum excavation technologies: worked very well, but did not mesh well with teamsters on digs. Sold company.
- Flagship ventures: alternative fuels, environmental change
  - o Americans want to reduce dependence on foreign oils
  - o Creating biofuels – synthetic biotechnology will enable the next generation of biofuels
  - o Can we synthesize petroleum? Yes, we should be able to!
    - Founded company LS9: produces designer biofuels using both biosynthetic technologies and secretory pathways in engineered cells to enable cost-effective processes

[talked a lot more; wasn't able to take notes in class, complete them by watching video]