

Back to First Principles

Q3 & 4 2025

Sachin Sashti: Letter to Shareholders

Purpose: Keeping in touch is easier said than done.

As a “shareholder”, you have invested meaningful support in my journey. Given your status as an investor, I want to share a short update on my life, twice a year. **I hope this will create a space to share your updates with me and no advice is unsolicited!**

Theme: This 6-month period has been uniquely difficult for me. This letter's theme, ***Back to First Principles***, reflects a rethinking of fundamental assumptions about myself, and that growth isn't so linear. Enjoy and **PLEASE reply**.

With much gratitude,

Sachin Sashti



The Current Chapter



Business + Philosophy at Penn State



AI Venture Incubations (More below!)



Summer 2026 KPMG Intern in NYC



Personal Portfolio: sachin-sashti.com

Thoughts I'm Looking for Guidance On

- 1.) I'm increasingly interested in venture backed startups! **Know anyone I can chat with about their experience?**
- 2.) I'm trying to learn more about AI. Books, tools, podcasts, etc. recs are great!

Completed goals since the last update:



Read 12 Books in 2025 - [List](#)



Start a Podcast - More Below!



5 Screenless Days Before 2026



Organize a KPMG Office Ping Pong Tournament - 45 People!



Intern remotely in Fall 2025



Speak to an audience of 50+

What's New

AI Incubations



I'm working with an experienced founder (Coyne) to build vertical software around AI!



My biggest growth platform in college & what I'm most excited about!

Debate

Our recruitment chair (right) tripled our team size, leading to a larger leadership role!



Varsity team ↓

KPMG

Highlights of my Summer 2025 internship in San Diego:

- Created Office Ping Pong Tournament
- Assisted on M&A + Real Estate engagements!



What's Coming

Podcast Launching Soon...



Theme

Conversations with interesting people about how they think, build, and navigate life



Name

I'm thinking of naming it Curiax - latin for curiosity + greek for first principles. **Thoughts?**



2 episodes have been recorded with releases set in the new year. **Want to be a guest? Reach out!**

Next up: Summer 2026 Deals Intern!

In San Diego, I grew interested in M&A consulting (shoutout Dylan), and accepted an offer to intern with KPMG's Financial Due Diligence team in New York City ! **Tips for summer success?**

What's Personal

While these past 6-months have been deeply growth-oriented, they've also been challenging. It's helped me realize that success isn't so black & white and there will always be more to wish for :)

Aug. 7th - Laguna Beach

Fractured my spine and broke a rib at the beach :(

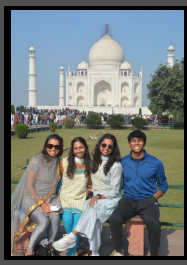
- Physical activity is a huge part of who I am, and while I'm expected to make a full recovery, it still affects my day-to-day life.
- It's helped me reflect on what's important and how I approach gratitude



Family Trips to Ecuador & India



Grateful to travel, spend time with family, and make too many new inside jokes



Ambitions



Personal

1. Take a solo trip
2. Live with summer roommates I didn't know previously (**Know a student interning in NYC?**)
3. Start a consistent nightly routine



Professional

1. Start a business in the spring semester
2. Meet 10 NYC KPMGers before internship start
3. Read 12 business books in 2026

P.S. For starting a business, I'm thinking a "student consulting platform", advising on all things professional development (i.e. outreach, networking), aimed at getting internships. Focus is Fr./So. studying Finance or Accounting. **Would love to hear what you think , especially if you know someone who's done this!!!**