School of Materials Science and Engineering

Seminar Topic:
My Experience as an Academic Entrepreneur: Translating Research from Lab to Bedside and Back

Professor Lim Chwee Teck
NUS Society Professor
Acting Director, Biomedical Institute for Global Health Research and Technology
Department of Biomedical Engineering, Mechanobiology Institute
National University of Singapore

Abstract

Many researchers aims to perform impactful research with outcomes that will directly benefit the society. However, many are also torn between conducting basic or translational research as the impression is that the former can better lead to more significant publications which is more desirable for the university researcher. Here, I will share my experience as an academic entrepreneur of how while continuing to pursue cutting edge basic research, we can leverage on our findings and outcomes to translate them into useful technologies that can directly benefit the patients and the society. I will showcase several examples of how while engaging in basic mechanobiology research on human diseases, we have also managed to translate some of these findings into viable medical technologies that can directly diagnose diseases such as cancer and enable precision medicine and personalized treatment of patients. We have since bring several of our technologies from our lab to the bedside and market through a number of startups.

Biography

Professor Lim is the inaugural NUS Society Professor, Founding Principal Investigator of the Mechanobiology Institute as well as Acting Director of the Biomedical Institute for Global Health Research & Technology at the National University of Singapore. His research interests include mechanobiology of human diseases and microfluidic technologies for diagnosis and precision medicine. Prof Lim has authored more than 360 journal papers including in Nature, Nature Materials, Nature Comm, Nature Protocols and PNAS. He is an elected Fellow of both the American Institute for Medical & Biological Engineering and the International Academy for Medical & Biological Engineering as well as elected council member of the World Council of Biomechanics. He currently sits on the editorial boards of more than 20 international journals. Prof Lim and his team have garnered more than 80 research awards and honors including the HFSP Award 2018, International Precision Medicine Center Conference Prize 2017, Asian Scientist 100 in 2016, ASEAN Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award 2016, Wall Street Journal Asian Innovation Award (Gold) 2012, President's Technology Award 2011 and the IES Prestigious Engineering Achievement Award 2010, 2016 among others.

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Venue: MSE E-Studio (N4.1-B2-02)
Hosted by: Professor Chen Xiaodong

Office of Associate Chair (Research)
Email: vd-mse@ntu.edu.sg
www.ntu.edu.sg/mse