



# BOONRAT LOHWONGWATANA

Dr Boonrat Lohwongwatana is an Associate Professor of Metallurgical Engineering at Chulalongkorn University. He has pioneered the 3D printing of biomedical titanium for orthopaedics, plastic surgery and neuro-surgery applications. Dr Boonrat has had 3 Newton Fund awards: Leaders in Innovation Fellowship (LIF), Industry-Academia Partnership, and Transforming Systems through Partnership. His research is developing custom-made artificial bones using titanium 3D printing technology to improve the treatment of bone fractures and tumours.

## LESSONS earned

- 1 I SHOULD LEARN AT LEAST ONE NEW THING EVERY DAY.**  
Since I was a child, I have always reminded myself I should learn at least one new thing every day.
- 2 KNOCK ON ALL DOORS, THEN FOCUS ON AND EMBRACE THE ONES THAT OPEN.**  
After many unsuccessful attempts to identify surgeons who wanted to work with us, we never gave up and now we only focus on the people that care and want to excel with us.
- 3 THE THREE THINGS ANY STARTUP CO-FOUNDER SHOULD HAVE: FOCUS, FOCUS AND LASER SHARP FOCUS.**  
There are always too many exciting things to try, too many new ideas to tackle and too many requests for help requested.
- 4 TO PRODUCE A GOOD LEADER, FIRST WE MUST TRUST THEM.**  
I am very fortunate to be surrounded by many wonderful leaders. We must trust them and embrace their failures.
- 5 LIFE WILL FIND ITS WAY.**  
When I fail, or when I stress out over some big obstacles, this is what I remind myself to feel better and I sing in my head "que sera sera".
- 6 PROMOTE WITHIN, EMBRACE FAILURES, AND SHARE RESPONSIBILITY.**  
Eliminate siloed working. Encourage staff to take more responsibility for decision making by not punishing ideas that are tried and fail.
- 7 A SUCCESSFUL STARTUP IS THE ONE THAT SOLVES MORE PROBLEMS THAN OTHERS.**  
The success of your startup company depends on the more impossibilities made possible, and the more problems your company can solve compared to others.
- 8 WHEN YOU CHALLENGE THE STATUS QUO, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A FORCE AGAINST YOU.**  
The size of the opposing force is indicative of the size of something impactful that is about to happen.