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Rafael Luque is Deputy Head of Department from Departamento de Quimica Organica at Universidad de Cordoba, where he graduated in 2005. With a postdoctoral stay of three years at the Green Chemistry Center of Excellence, The University of York (With Prof. James Clark), Prof. Luque has a significant experience on biomass and waste valorisation practises to materials, fuels and chemicals as well as nanoscale chemistry and green engineering. From 2009, he has been Ramon y Cajal Fellow at UCO in Spain and leads a group of ca. 20 people (students and faculty), having spent sabbatical periods at the EPA at Cincinnati (with Dr. Rajender Varma), at the Max Planck in Berlin (with Prof. Markus Antonietti), HKUST (at CBME as Distinguished Engineering Fellow), Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (with Prof. Guobao Xu), Universidade Federal de Pelotas (with Prof. Diego Alves) and Universite de Technologie de Compiegne (with Prof. Christophe Len).

Prof. Luque has published over 350 research articles, filed 4 patent applications and edited 10 books as well as numerous contributions to book chapters and invited, guest, keynote and plenary lectures in scientific events worldwide. He is also heavily involved in Chemical Education and promoting Science in Developing Countries. Since January 2015, Prof. Luque is Editor of Journal of Molecular Catalysis A: Chemical from Elsevier (i.f. 4.2) and Editor-in-chief of the Porous Materials section of Materials (MDPI). Prof, Luque is also member of the Editorial Advisory Board of prestigious journals including Chemical Society Reviews and Green Chemistry (RSC), Scientific Reports (Nature Publishing), Catalysis Communications (Elsevier), Topics in Current Chemistry and Sustainable Chemical Processes (Springer) and COS and CGC (Bentham Publishers).

Among recent awards, Rafael received the Marie Curie Prize from Instituto Andaluz de Quimica Fina in Spain (2011), the Green Talents award from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in Germany (2011), the TR35 Spain from Technology Review and MIT as one of the top 10 young entrepreneurs in Spain (2012) and very recently the RSC Environment, Sustainability and Energy Early Career Award (2013) from the Royal Society of Chemistry UK and the 2015 Lu Jiaxi lectureship from the College of Chemistry and Engineering in Xiamen University (China).

Prof. Luque was also honored as 2013 Distinguished Engineering Fellow and Visiting Professor from CBME at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in Hong Kong and Chinese Academy of Sciences Visiting Professorship at the State Key Laboratory of

Electroanalytical Chemistry of the Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry (2014), being currently Visiting Professor from Xiamen University (China, from 2015) as well as a Ciencia sem Fronteiras Special Visiting Scientist Fellowship at Universidade Federal de Pelotas in Brazil (2015-2018).

Prof. Luque combines his academic duties with his activities as young entrepreneur after co-founding the spin-off companies Starbon® Technologies at York, UK (2011, http://www.starbon-technologies.com/) which markets novel biomass derived carbonaceous materials and Green Applied Solutions S.L. (GAS, http://greenappliedsolutions.com/) in Cordoba, Spain (2012) as a R&D and consultancy on waste valorization to marketable products.