

Taming Multifaceted Nickel Catalysts: An Academic Fascination

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The recent years have witnessed a renaissance in the general area of Ni-catalyzed reactions. The popularity of these processes is mainly attributed to the unique features of nickel when compared to its d10 congeners, and the promiscuity of nickel to participate in multiple redox manifolds. Our research group has reports some progress directed towards the utilization of feedstock materials en route to added-value building blocks by means of Ni-catalyzed transformations. Among these, we have shown the ability for incorporating carbon dioxide (CO₂) into organic matter or catalytic techniques that make use of simple (un)saturated hydrocarbons or native functionality to build up molecular complexity from simple precursors without losing sight their mechanistic considerations, when appropriate. These methods are characterized by their simplicity, wide scope, including challenging substrate combinations with particularly sensitive functional groups and a diverse set of substitution patterns



Ruben Martin was born in Barcelona in 1976. He received his Ph.D in 2003 at the Universitat de Barcelona with Prof. Antoni Riera, working on the total synthesis of glycosidases inhibitors. In January 2004 he moved to the Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung as a Humboldt postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Alois Fürstner, where he worked on the application of novel iron catalysts for cross-coupling and Alder-ene type reactions. In May 2005 he undertook further postdoctoral studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a MEC postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Stephen L. Buchwald where he developed new synthetic strategies for metal-catalyzed C-C and C-N bond-forming reactions. In September 2008 he joined the ICIQ as a group leader. His current research interests concern the discovery and development of synthetically useful organometallic methodologies. Rubén Martín was promoted to Associate Professor in July 2013. In October 2013, he became ICREA (Catalan Institution of Research and Advanced Studies) Research Professor. During his time at ICIQ, he has received the 2010 RSEQ Young Investigator Award, 2011 Thieme Chemistry Journal Award, 2011 Eli Lilly Young Research Investigator Award, 2015 RSEQ Excellent Research Award, 2011 ERC Starting Grant, 2017 Marcial Moreno Lectureship Award, 2017 OMCOS Award, 2017 Liebig-Lectureship Award, 2018 Pharmaron Lectureship Award, 2018 Bristol-Myers-Squibb Lectureship Award, 2018 Genentech Lectureship Award, 2018 ChemSocRev Pioneering Investigator Award, 2018 Hirata Award, 2018 IOCF Lectureship Award, 2018 Banc Sabadell Award to Sciences and Engineering, 2019 ParazaPharma Lectureship Award, 2019 Boehringer Ingelheim Award, 2019 MIT/Merck Lectureship Award, 2019 Novartis Chemistry Lectureship Award and 2020 Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award, 2023 BMS/UNC Lectureship Award, 2023 Novartis/Columbia Lectureship Award, 2021 Forbes Top 50 Awarded Spaniards, 2021 ERC Advanced Grant. He is an associate editor of *Synlett* (2017) and sits in many advisory boards, e.g., *Tetrahedron Chem* (2021), *ACS Organic & Inorganic Au* (2021), *Chemical Society Reviews* (2019), *Organic Letters* (2019), *ACS Catalysis* (2017), *Chem* (2015). He is an author of more than 120 papers and several patents. His h-index is 65 (based on Scopus).



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