

#ICMolTalks

Prof. Luis Echegoyen***International Chair for
Academic Programs, ICIQ,
Tarragona, Spain***October 20th - 11:00h

📍 Assembly Hall - ICMol



Abstract

Is My Professional Success the Result of Ability and Competency or Just Plain Luck?

Luis Echegoyen

Instituto Catalán de Investigación Química
lechegoyen@iciq.es

This presentation will present, from a very personal perspective, a subject that has been defined as “Impostor (or Imposter) Syndrome (or Phenomenon),” IS or IP, a prevalent condition in high achieving individuals, especially in academic settings, that affects students and faculty alike. The presentation will begin with a brief account of the presenter’s professional accomplishments, followed by definitions and descriptions of the syndrome. Possible causes and attitudes, as well as ways to combat the effects of impostorism, as it is commonly called, will be presented and discussed. This should be an interesting talk for people who suffer from the condition; people who have constant self-doubts about their abilities and competencies and serious problems accepting failures and, more importantly, also successes.

Biography

Prof. Echegoyen was the Robert A. Welch Professor of Chemistry from 2010-2021 (when he retired) at the University of Texas at El Paso and was President of the American Chemical Society in 2020. He was also the Director of the Chemistry Division at the US National Science Foundation from 2006 until 2010. He was Professor and Chair of the Chemistry Department at Clemson University (2002-2006). He has published >525 articles, including 49 book chapters, and his current h index is 97 (Google Scholar, 1 September 2025). He was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2003 and was the recipient of many awards, including the 1996 Florida ACS Award, the 1997 University of Miami Provost Award for Excellence in Research, the 2007 Herty Medal Award from the ACS Georgia Section, and the 2007 Clemson University Presidential Award for Excellence in Research. He was also selected as an ACS Fellow in 2011 and Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry in 2019. He works at the Instituto Catalán de Investigación Química (ICIQ) where he is the International Chair for Academic Programs, acting as an ambassador for the institute, mainly focused in Latin America.

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