

Dr. Castellano-Hinojosa graduated from the University of Granada with a degree in Environmental Sciences, and 19 of 42 courses with “cum laude”. During the course of his degree, he was awarded two scholarships from the programs “Iniciación a la Investigación” of the Vicerrectorado de Investigación (University of Granada, UGR) and “Beca de Colaboración” of the Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte (MECD) which he conducted at Department of Microbiology (UGR). He was awarded a scholarship from the program “Formación del Profesorado Universitario, FPU” (FPU; 2014/01633) of the MECD to do a PhD in the Department of Microbiology (UGR) and Estación Experimental del Zaidín (EEZ-CSIC, Spanish National Research Council). He graduated as a doctor in April 2019 with “cum laude” (International Mention). He was accredited as “Profesor Ayudante Doctor”, “Profesor Contratado Doctor” and “Profesor de Universidad Privada” by “Agencia Nacional de Evaluación de la Calidad y Acreditación” (ANECA) in May 2019. During his PhD, he did 3 national internships at 2 two research centers (Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología of Salamanca, CSIC; and Polytechnic University of Madrid) and 2 international internships at Rothamsted Research, UK). He was awarded different national and international scholarships to do those internships (e.g., FEMS Research Grant, MECD, and UGR).

He was awarded a postdoctoral position in the Department of Soil and Water Sciences at the University of Florida (USA) in July 2019. In January 2022, he was awarded a postdoctoral contract for the attraction of international talent from the program “Plan Andaluz de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación (PAIDI 2020)” in the Department of Microbiology (UGR).

He has published 37 research papers in JCR-indexed journals (21 as first author and 19 as corresponding author; h-index of 12; >390 citations; 18 manuscripts in Q1), 12 book chapters, and has co-authored a book. He has participated as a researcher in 8 projects from different national and international programs. He has presented 12 and 21 contributions to national and international congresses, respectively. He has reviewed more than 115 articles for JCR-indexed journals, including Nature Communications, Soil Biology and Biochemistry, and Journal of Hazardous Materials. He has teaching experience (150 hours) in the Department of Microbiology (UGR). He has served as editor for special issues in *Frontiers in Microbiology* (Q1) and *Frontiers in Environmental Sciences* (Q1).

He is a member of the research group “Microbiología Ambiental” (RNM-270). He has extensive expertise in molecular methods and bioinformatics tools including high-throughput amplicon sequencing and quantitative PCR, and functional analyses (RNA and bioinformatics tools to predict microbial functions) in the field of environmental microbiology. His research has contributed to the society by establishing collaborations with public and private companies (Sportsverd Football S.L and Eurochem Agro Iberia (Spain), and Citrus Research and Development Foundation (USA)) thus contributing to knowledge transfer. He has participated as an evaluator for grants, technical and research positions for the Ministry of Science and Innovation (Spain) and as an expert evaluator for projects of the Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI, Spain). He has also participated as an evaluator for research positions for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA, USA).

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