



## **Book Review**

Studies in Natural Products Chemistry, Volume 30: Bioactive Natural Products (Part K) Edited by Atta-ur-Rahman (University of Karachi, Pakistan). Elsevier B.V.: Amsterdam. 2005. xiv + 964 pp. \$506.00. ISBN 0-444-51854-1.

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Natural Product Synthesis I: Target, Methods, Concepts. Topics in Current Chemistry, 243. Edited by Johann Mulzer (Universität Wien). Springer-Verlag: Berlin, Heidelberg. 2005. x + 240 pp. \$209.00. ISBN 3-540-21125-X.

The contents of this book are the following: Total Syntheses of Kelsoene and Preussin; Paraconic Acids—The Natural Products from *Lichen* Symbiont; Recent Progress in the Total Synthesis of Dolabellane and Dolastane Diterpenes; Strategies for Total and Diversity-Oriented Synthesis of Natural Product (-Like) Macrocycles; and Enantioselective Synthesis of C(8)-Hydroxylated Lignans: Early Approaches and Recent Advances. These are all highly specialized topics that most likely would only appeal to researchers already active in these areas. Nonetheless, while narrow in scope, the topics are well described with thorough attention to the details of strategies and reactions. **Philip Magnus**, *The University of Texas at Austin* 

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Geometric Structures of Phase **Space** Multi-Dimensional Chaos: Applications to Chemical Reaction Dynamics in Complex Systems, Parts A and B. Advances in Chemical Physics, Volume 130. Edited by Mikito Toda (Nara Women's University, Nara, Japan), Tamiki Komatsuzaki (Kobe University, Kobe, Japan), Tetsuro Konishi (Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan), R. Steven Berry, and Stuart A. Rice (University of Chicago). Series edited by Stuart A. Rice. John Wiley & Sons: Hoboken, NJ. 2005. xxvi + 542 pp (Part A) and xxvi + 682 pp (Part B). \$350.00 (set). ISBN 0-471-71158-6 (set).

This two-volume set was developed from a conference of the same title held at the Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics, Kyoto University, in Kyoto, Japan, in October 2003. Its chapters are organized into three main sections: (I) Phasespace geometry of multidimensional dynamical systems and reaction processes, (II) Complex dynamical behavior in clusters and proteins, and data mining to extract information on dynamics, and (III) New directions in multidimensional chaos and evolutionary reactions. An author index and a detailed subject index complete the set.

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Protein Folding Handbook, Volumes 1–5. Edited by Johannes Buchner (Technische Universität München) and Thomas Kiefhaber (Biozentrum der Universität Basel). Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA: Weinheim, Germany. 2005. 2560 pp. \$1300. ISBN 3-527-30784-2.

biochemical, and medical aspects of the field of protein folding. To quote the editors, "it combines in-depth reviews with detailed experimental protocols." Volumes 1 and 2, which constitute Part I, address the principles of protein stability and design, predicting folding pathways, and important techniques for studying the process of protein folding. The remaining volumes (Part II) cover protein folding, unfolding, and misfolding at the cellular level, molecular chaperones, and other enzymes involved in folding, protein folding diseases, and genetic engineering of proteins and the protein folding process. A subject index is included for the five volumes.

This comprehensive handbook covers theoretical, biophysical,

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Seminars in Organic Synthesis: XXIX Summer School "A. Corbella", June 14–18, 2004, Palazzo Feltrinelli, Università degli Studi di Milano, Gargnano (BS). Committee Chairman, Franco Sannicolo' (Università di Milano). Società Chimica Italiana: Rome. 2004. ii + 422 pp. \$199.00. ISBN 88-86208-25-1.

The 19 chapters of this edition of *Seminars in Organic Synthesis* are organized under the following headings: Strategies in Organic Synthesis; Problems in Industrial Organic Synthesis; Advanced Physical Methods in Organic Chemistry; Non Classical Synthetic Methodologies; The Origin of Biomolecular Chirality: An Enigma on the [*sic*] Life's Origin; Critical Surveys Covering the Year 2003. A CD-ROM of the book is also included.

JA059754+

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Studies in Natural Products Chemistry, Volume 30: Bioactive Natural Products (Part K). Edited by Atta-ur-Rahman (University of Karachi, Pakistan). Elsevier B.V.: Amsterdam. 2005. xiv + 964 pp. \$506.00. ISBN 0-444-51854-1.

Volume 30 of this well-known series, written by an international group of experts in the area of natural products, focuses on bioactive natural products. A sampling of the chapters in this issue includes "Anti-obesity effects of natural products", "Serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine) and etiology of autism", and

"Earthworm fibrinolytic enzyme". An extensive subject index completes the book.

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Van Nostrand's Encyclopedia of Chemistry. Edited by Glenn D. Considine (Editor-in-Chief), Greg Gallagher (Associate Editor), and Peter H. Kulik (Associate Editor). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.: Hoboken, NJ. 2005. xviii + 1832 pp. \$195.95. ISBN 0-471-61525-0.

The fifth edition of this well-known and well-respected encyclopedia continues to define topics in the field of chemistry, from the introductory to the highly technical. More than 1350 new articles have been added to this edition, and more than 1300 existing articles have been updated since the publication of the fourth edition in 1984. Some of the new topics that are

addressed include nanotechnology, fuel cell technology, and green, forensic, supramolecular, combinatorial, and materials chemistry. According to the preface, the editors sought to emphasize the following areas: (1) advanced processes, (2) strategic raw materials, (3) chemistry of metals, (4) energy sources and conversion, (5) wastes and pollution, (6) analytical instrumentation, (7) growing use of food chemicals, (8) structure of matter, (9) new and improved materials, (10) plant chemistry, and (11) biochemistry and biotechnology. This is truly a useful reference—good for both the newcomer and the experienced. The format of the entries follows the tradition of earlier editions: the topic is introduced and defined simply and clearly, followed by more detailed discussion plus cross-references and additional reading, where appropriate. A subject index completes the book.

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