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Preface

Recent advances in the chemistry of zirconocenes

Over the past decade, interest in organozirconium chemistry has been rapidly increasing. In April 1995, *Tetrahedron* reported on recent advances in the use of zirconocenes and related compounds in a special Symposium-in-print, edited by Professor Ei-ichi Negishi. In view of the time passed since this volume, the exciting developments in this field as well as the upcoming 50 year anniversary of the synthesis of the first organozirconocene by G. Wilkinson, we felt that it was timely to update the readership on recent advances in the chemistry of zirconocene in celebration of the far-reaching impact and diversity of this field of organo-transition metal research.

The contributed papers in this Symposium-in-print highlight many of the varied aspects of the chemistry of zirconocene complexes, such as transmetalation reactions and catalyzed conjugate additions, carboaluminations in the presence of zirconocenes, cyclometalations, allylic eliminations and backbone rearrangements, aldehyde, imine and carbamate additions, cationic zirconocenes and glycosylations, microwave accelerated and late-transition metal catalyzed cross-coupling reactions, carbenoid insertions, haloamidation and isomerization reactions as well as multicomponent condensations. As components of a multifaceted zirconium collage, they provide an exciting overview of the creativity and power of modern synthetic methodologies.

We wish to express our sincere and deep appreciation to all authors and co-authors who contributed insightful papers on their most recent research findings. Reading their work was not only a pleasure for us, it will undoubtedly stimulate future developments and research collaborations. We also would like to thank the reviewers for their critical comments and Professor Harry Wasserman for the invitation to edit this special issue and for his helpful suggestions. We hope that all readers, newcomers to this field as well as the experts, will find this special issue of *Tetrahedron* rewarding and stimulating for their own research and development projects.

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