



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

# Tetrahedron

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/tet](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/tet)

## Preface

### Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award 2011



The Executive Board of Directors for Tetrahedron Publications is pleased to recognize the outstanding achievements of Professor F. Dean Toste of University of California, Berkeley and has awarded him a Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award in recognition of his exceptional creativity and contributions to the field of organic synthesis, especially to the development and application of metal-catalyzed reactions. Professor Toste will present his award address at the Tetrahedron Symposium held in Barcelona, Spain in June 2011. In honor of his receipt of this award, this special *Symposium-in-Print* entitled 'Useful Synthetic Methods: Innovative Developments and Applications' has been organized. We are grateful to the many contributors for their own outstanding accomplishments that have led to the production of this unique issue and for their individual creative contributions to the general field of organic synthesis.

Professor Toste received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in chemistry from the University of Toronto, Canada where he worked with Professor Ian W. J. Still. In 1995, he began his doctoral studies at Stanford University under the direction of Professor Barry M. Trost. Following postdoctoral studies with Professor Robert H. Grubbs at Caltech, he joined the faculty at the University of

California, Berkeley in July of 2002; he was promoted to Associate Professor in 2006 and Professor in 2009. Professor Toste's honors include an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship (2005), the Cope Scholar Award (2006) and the E. J. Corey Award (2008) from the American Chemical Society, the BASF Catalysis Award (2007) and the OMCOS (2007) and the Thieme Award (2008) from IUPAC, the Merck Award (2010) from the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Mukaiyama Award (2011), and the Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award (2011) and numerous awards from the pharmaceutical industry. Current research in his group is aimed towards the design of novel metal catalysts and metal-catalyzed reactions and the application of these methods to practical chemical synthesis.

The first paper in this special issue is an important contribution from Professor Toste wherein he presents a useful method for the synthesis of aryl heterocycles by a tandem, gold-catalyzed cycloisomerization of aryl ethynyl MIDA boranates and a Suzuki cross-coupling sequence. The remaining 23 papers collected in this special *Symposium-in-Print* represent a broad cross-section of contemporary synthetic organic chemistry. There are numerous accounts detailing the development of useful methods, many of which are based on transition metal-catalyzed reactions and other catalyzed processes that address significant problems in synthesis. There are also elegant applications of methods to the total synthesis of natural products, a key step in the validation of new methodologies. These varied accounts provide an exciting glimpse at some of the best work in the field of organic chemistry. I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I did.

Stephen F. Martin,  
M. June and J. Virgil Waggoner Regents Chair in Chemistry,  
The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry,  
The University of Texas at Austin, 1 University Station A5300, Austin,  
TX 78712, USA  
E-mail address: [smartin@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:smartin@mail.utexas.edu)

Available online 22 April 2011