

# SYNTHESIS

## Editorial

### Dear Readers,

Two years ago we celebrated forty years of **SYNTHESIS** and as we enter the second decade of the new millennium it is again time to look ahead to the new developments of our journal and to reflect upon the last twelve months. More chemists than ever before around the globe are producing exciting new research results in synthetic organic chemistry. Consequently, the number of published pages in **SYNTHESIS** has doubled in the span of just a decade, and, while keeping our high standards with a rejection rate of around 50%, we reached an all-time high of more than 4300 printed pages in 2010.

A focal point within the review section has been the rapidly growing field of organocatalysis, covering three major subfields with the reviews of Merino and Herrera et al. on organocatalytic Diels–Alder reactions, of Marcelli and Hiemstra on asymmetric carbon–carbon bond formations via chinchona-derived organocatalysts and of Terada on chiral phosphoric acids as versatile catalysts for enantioselective transformations (see also Table). The Special Issue dedicated to Professor Rolf Huisgen on the occasion of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday was another highlight.

At the beginning of this New Year, we have three important announcements to make: firstly, a new submission and evaluation system has been implemented; secondly, there are several changes/additions within the Editorial Board; and thirdly, we will start a new section called Short Reviews.

With effect as of December 1, 2010, manuscript submissions to **SYNTHESIS** are being processed exclusively online via “ScholarOne Manuscripts”. All authors who wish to submit a manuscript should visit

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/synthesis>

to register for an account and follow the instructions provided for registration and submission of manuscripts. Further information on all aspects of manuscript preparation can be found under the “Instructions & Forms” link.

Most-Downloaded Reviews and Papers from 2010 (January to November), DL = Downloads, CT = Citations by December 15, 2010

| DL             | CT | Article   |
|----------------|----|---|
| <b>REVIEWS</b> |    |   |
| 1304           | 3  | Cinchona Alkaloids in Asymmetric Organocatalysis<br>T. Marcelli, H. Hiemstra <b>2010</b> , 1229   |
| 1096           | 6  | Chiral Phosphoric Acids as Versatile Catalysts for Enantioselective Transformations<br>M. Terada <b>2010</b> , 1929   |
| 986            | 2  | Synthesis of Halogenated Carboxylic Acids and Amino Acids<br>C. Czekelius, C. C. Tzschucke <b>2010</b> , 543  |
| 983            | 11 | Enantioselective Organocatalytic Diels–Alder Reactions<br>P. Merino, R. P. Herrera et al. <b>2010</b> , 1   |
| 879            | 2  | Transition-Metal-Catalyzed Oxidative Heck Reactions<br>B. Karimi et al. <b>2010</b> , 1399  |
| <b>PAPERS</b>  |    |   |
| 703            | 1  | Carbon–Fluorine Bond Formation for the Synthesis of Aryl Fluorides<br>T. Ritter et al. <b>2010</b> , 1804 ( <b>Special Topic</b> )  |
| 661            | -  | Pd/C and NaBH <sub>4</sub> in Basic Aqueous Alcohol: An Efficient System for an Environmentally Benign Oxidation of Alcohols<br>H. Rhee et al. <b>2010</b> , 477 ( <b>Full Paper</b> )  |
| 555            | -  | Efficient Copper-Catalyzed N-Arylation of Amides and Imidazoles with Aryl Iodides<br>T. Punniyamurthy et al. <b>2010</b> , 908 ( <b>Short Paper</b> )   |
| 483            | -  | A Concise Synthesis of ( <i>S</i> )-2-(Fluorodiphenylmethyl)pyrrolidine: A Novel Organocatalyst for the Stereoselective Epoxidation of $\alpha,\beta$ -Unsaturated Aldehydes<br>R. Gilmour et al. <b>2010</b> , 1394 ( <b>PSP</b> ) |
| 461            | 1  | 3-Acetylcoumarin as a Practical Ligand for Copper-Catalyzed C–N Coupling Reactions at Room Temperature<br>C.-Z. Tao et al. <b>2010</b> , 1280 ( <b>Full Paper</b> )   |

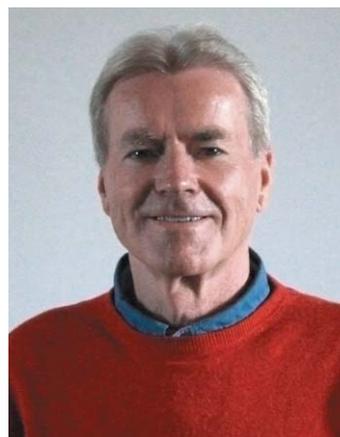
At the end of 2010, Philip Kocienski stepped down from his editorship for **SYNTHESIS**. We thank Philip for having carried out a superb job over almost twenty years. Fortunately, he will stay connected with Thieme through his work with **SYNFACTS** and, in collaboration with Dr. Krzysztof Jarowicki, on our Synthesis Reviews database which now covers more than 26,000 review articles of interest to the synthetic organic chemist. Philip Kocienski's place on our Editorial Board has been filled by another leading organic chemist from the UK, namely **P. Andrew Evans** who is at The University of Liverpool. We are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation with Andrew.



In view of the widespread development of top research in China and the corresponding rapid increase in the number of publications and submissions from the region, we have added a Regional Editor from China to the **SYNTHESIS** Editorial Board. We are happy to welcome **Xue-Long Hou** from the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, who will fill this new role.



We are also pleased to announce that **Bernd Giese**, after his retirement from the University of Basel, will join the Editorial Board of **SYNTHESIS** as Editor for Special Reviews at the interface of synthetic organic chemistry with biology and medicine.



Currently the regular publication program of **SYNTHESIS** includes Short Papers, Full Papers, Reviews, Feature Articles, Practical Synthetic Procedures (PSPs) and occasionally Book Reviews. In addition, we publish several Special Topics per year and a Special Issue, which will be a thematic one this year. As mentioned briefly above, a new important feature introduced this year will be the Short Reviews (6–10 pages long as compared to regular Reviews with 15–25 pages). Mark Lautens, our Editor for the Americas, will be in charge of this section. Those who are interested in these two new review options within **SYNTHESIS** are invited to contact Mark Lautens and Bernd Giese, respectively.

Thieme was the first publisher worldwide to make primary experimental chemistry data available on the reader's desktop. We again encourage our authors to supply the primary experimental data (raw, unprocessed data files such as FIDs) along with their manuscripts. For more details see the Instructions for Authors included in this issue or our website [http://www.thieme-chemistry.com/primary\\_data](http://www.thieme-chemistry.com/primary_data).

On behalf of all Editors and the staff of the Editorial Office in Stuttgart, I would like to thank our authors for their excellent contributions and our referees for their efforts and valuable comments during the past year. Let us continue in our pursuit of maintaining the high standards of **SYNTHESIS** as a leading international journal and providing our worldwide readership with exciting novel results in the broad field of synthetic organic chemistry.

With best wishes for a successful and peaceful New Year,

Dieter Enders

Editor in Chief

Aachen, January 2011