



Awarded ...

Adams Award for S. J. Danishefsky

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has awarded Samuel J. Danishefsky (Sloan-Kettering Institute and Columbia University, NY, USA) the Roger Adams Award in organic chemistry. This is the latest in a series of honors in recognition of Danishefsky's achievements in the advancement of strategies and methods in the organic synthesis of biologically active compounds. In



S. J. Danishefsky

particular, his group is interested in the synthesis of natural substances and their analogues that display antitumor and antiinfection activity, as well as fully synthetic antigens based on carbohydrates. He has upcoming reports in *Angewandte Chemie* on the total synthesis of phalarine^[1a] and the insights gained into the mechanism of the rearrangement of an azaspiroindolenine to a phalarine precursor.^[1b]

Danishefsky received his PhD in 1962 at Harvard University under the direction of P. Yates. From 1961 to 1963 he was an NIH postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University in the group of G. Stork. He then joined the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh before moving to Yale University in 1980. In 1993 he returned to Columbia University as a Professor of Chemistry and is currently Head of the Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan. Danishefsky is a member of the editorial advisory board of *ChemBioChem*.

Corey Award for M. J. Krische

The ACS has awarded Michael J. Krische (University of Texas at Austin, TX, USA) the Elias J. Corey Award for "Outstanding Original Contribution in Organic Synthesis by a Young Investigator" sponsored by Pfizer. Krische and co-workers are interested in the development of new synthetic methods and their application in natural products synthesis, and have thereby developed a broad palette of catalytic C–C bond-forming



M. J. Krische

reactions. Krische recently described in *Angewandte Chemie* the branch-selective intermolecular hydroacylation (hydrogen-mediated coupling of anhydrides to styrenes and activated olefins)^[2a] as well as the hydrogen-bond-mediated self-assembly of aminopyrazolones.^[2b]

Krische studied chemistry at the University of California in Berkeley and then spent a year as a Fulbright fellow at Helsinki University (Finland). He completed his PhD in 1996 at Stanford University under the guidance of B. M. Trost and then joined J.-M. Lehn (Chemistry Nobel Prize 1987) as a postdoctoral researcher at the Université Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg (France). In 1999 he joined the faculty at Texas as an assistant professor and was promoted to Full Professor in 2004.

... and announced

R. Metternich Joins Merck & Co.

Rainer Metternich, member of the editorial board of *Angewandte Chemie* and co-chairman (with G. Tarzia) of the editorial board of *ChemMedChem*, has joined Merck & Co. (West Point, PA, USA) as of February 1, 2007, as Vice President of Basic Research and Site Head West Point. Metternich was previously a board member of Schering AG, which was taken over by Bayer in the meantime, and was responsible for the research division, preclinical development, and human resources there. Merck & Co. was founded in 1891 as

the US subsidiary of Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany) but became an independent company due to the First World War.

Metternich studied chemical engineering in Jülich (Germany) and then chemistry at the Universität Marburg, where he completed his PhD in 1985 with R. W. Hoffmann on topics including the configurational stability of chiral organometallic reagents.^[3] During a postdoctoral stay with D. A. Evans at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA (USA), he worked on stereoselective synthesis and the total synthesis of natural products. During 1986–1997 Metternich moved up the ranks in pharmaceutical research from laboratory to division leader at Sandoz AG in Basel (Switzerland). From 1997 to 2000 he worked as a senior chemistry expert



R. Metternich

and member of the global research management committee at Novartis Pharma, which resulted from the fusion of Sandoz with Ciba Geigy. In 2000 he joined Schering AG in Berlin as Director of Medicinal Chemistry, and from 2001 he led the European Research Center there. In 2001 Metternich was named Honorary Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Technische Universität Berlin. He has been a board member of the German Chemical Society (GDCh) since 2004.

- [1] a) C. Li, C. Chan, A. C. Heimann, S. J. Danishefsky, *Angew. Chem.*, DOI: 10.1002/ange.200604072; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, DOI: 10.1002/anie.200604072; b) C. Li, C. Chan, A. C. Heimann, S. J. Danishefsky, *Angew. Chem.*, DOI: 10.1002/ange.200604071; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, DOI: 10.1002/anie.200604071.
- [2] a) Y.-T. Hong, A. Barchuk, M. J. Krische, *Angew. Chem.* **2006**, *118*, 7039; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 6885; b) H. Gong, M. J. Krische, *Angew. Chem.* **2005**, *117*, 7231; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, *44*, 7069.
- [3] R. W. Hoffmann, J. Lanz, R. Metternich, G. Tarara, D. Hoppe, *Angew. Chem.* **1987**, *99*, 1196; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1987**, *26*, 1145.

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