S. P. Nolan

Steven P. Nolan

Date of birth:	September 18, 1962
Position:	Professor and Chair in Inorganic Chemistry, University of St Andrews (UK)
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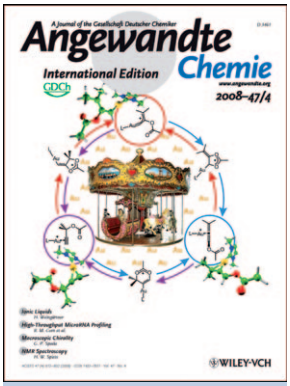
Education:	1983 BSc University of West Florida, Pensacola (USA) 1987 PhD with Prof. Carl D. Hoff, University of Miami (USA) 1987–1990 Postdoctoral stay with Prof. Tobin J. Marks, Northwestern University, Evanston (USA)
Awards:	**2007** RSC Homogeneous Catalysis Award; **2009** RSC Organometallic Chemistry Award; **2010** Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award
Current research interests:	The study of the role of N-heterocyclic carbenes in organometallic chemistry and homogeneous catalysis.
Hobbies:	Reading, running, and traveling

*The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** since 2000 in Angewandte Chemie:* "Carboxylation of N–H/C–H Bonds Using N-Heterocyclic Carbene Copper(I) Complexes": I. I. F. Boogaerts, G. C. Fortman, M. R. L. Furst, C. S. J. Cazin, S. P. Nolan, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 8856–8859; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 8674–8677.



S. P. Nolan has been featured on the cover of Angewandte Chemie: "Golden Carousel in Catalysis: The Cationic Gold/Propargylic Ester Cycle": A. Correa, N. Marion, L. Fensterbank, M. Malacria, S. P. Nolan, L. Cavallo, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 730–733; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 718–721.

When I was eighteen I wanted to be … a professional baseball player.

The biggest challenge facing scientists is … to convince the funding agencies that what they do is meaningful.

The three qualities that make a good scientist are … perseverance, perseverance, and perseverance.

Chemistry is fun because … it challenges you constantly.

If I won the lottery, I would … drink better wines.

I chose chemistry as a career because … it was fun and still to this day does not feel like work.

My first experiment was … seeing sugar crystals grow from maple syrup … yes, a Canadian variation on the blander cane sugar experiment.

In my spare time I … what spare time?

The secret of being a successful scientist is … work "smart" and hard.

The best advice I have ever been given is … "keep at it".

The worst advice I have ever been given was … "maybe you should examine something else than olefin metathesis".

The part of my job which I enjoy the most is … working alongside young enthusiastic scientists and see them develop.

My favorite author is … W. P. Kinsella (no, not Sophie).

My 5 top papers:

1. "Olefin Metathesis-Active Ruthenium Complexes Bearing a Nucleophilic Carbene Ligand": J. Huang, E. D. Stevens, J. L. Petersen, S. P. Nolan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1999**, *121*, 2674–2678. (Synthesis and catalytic behavior of second-generation olefin metathesis catalysts.)
2. "Palladium–Imidazol-2-ylidene Complexes as Catalysts for Facile and Efficient Suzuki Cross-Coupling Reactions of Aryl Chlorides with Arylboronic Acids": C. Zhang, J. Huang, M. L. Trudell, S. P. Nolan, *J. Org. Chem.* **1999**, *64*, 3804–3805. (Involvement of C–Cl bonds in the Suzuki–Miyaura reaction.)
3. "Steric and Electronic Properties of N-Heterocyclic Carbenes (NHC): A Detailed Study on Their Interaction with $Ni(CO)_4$": R. Dorta, E. D. Stevens, N. M. Scott, C. Costabile, L. Cavallo, C. D. Hoff, S. P. Nolan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 2485–2495. (NHC steric and electronic properties come into focus).
4. "Modified (NHC)Pd(allyl)Cl (NHC = N-Heterocyclic Carbene) Complexes for Room-Temperature Suzuki–Miyaura and Buchwald–Hartwig Reactions": N. Marion, O. Navarro, J. Mei, E. D. Stevens, N. M. Scott, S. P. Nolan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 4101–4111. (Well-defined Pd–NHC in cross-coupling catalysis.)
5. "Au^I-Catalyzed Tandem [3,3] Rearrangement Intramolecular Hydroarylation of Allenes: Mild and Efficient Formation of Substituted Indenes": N. Marion, S. Díez-González, P. de Frémont, A. R. Noble, S. P. Nolan, *Angew. Chem.* **2006**, *118*, 3729–3732; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 3647–3650. (Adventures in Au-NHC catalysis begin.)

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