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Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bmc



Preface

Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award for Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry

The Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award for Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry was awarded to Professor John Ellman of the University of California in San Francisco. This special issue of *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry* is dedicated to him for his pioneering research in development of diversity-oriented chemistry and its application to the discovery of new drug candidates and novel materials.

Professor Ellman's research emphasizes the development of practical and general synthetic methods and their application to the synthesis of pharmaceuticals and bioactive natural products. Two areas of current focus are asymmetric amine synthesis and C–H bond functionalization. His laboratory is also actively engaged in the development of chemical tools to study enzymes. This effort has most recently centered on the application of a new substrate-based fragment identification and optimization approach, which he is currently applying to the development of pharmacologically

active small molecule inhibitors of proteases and phosphatases for the treatment of neglected diseases.

This special issue of *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry* covers a wide range of important contributions. The articles were invited from distinguished scientists who have a personal connection to John Ellman or with his field of study. They illuminate both the scope and the depth of Ellman's research.

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