

# SYNFACTS

The Editors and Editorial Office welcome Professor Erick M. Carreira as a new Editor for the *SYNFACTS* category “Synthesis of Natural Products and Potential Drugs”

Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Professor Erick M. Carreira from the ETH Zürich, Switzerland, as a new member of the Board of Editors of *SYNFACTS*. Erick Carreira takes over the responsibilities from Professor Steven V. Ley, who stepped down from the board with the September issue of *SYNFACTS*. Let me take this opportunity to thank Steve Ley and his co-workers for their valuable contributions over the past two and a half years.

Erick Carreira obtained his B.S. degree in 1984 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign working in Scott E. Denmark’s group. He then moved to Harvard University to pursue his PhD studies under the supervision of David A. Evans. After having obtained his PhD degree in 1990, he joined Peter Dervan’s group at Caltech to carry out postdoctoral research. In late 1992, he was appointed as assistant professor at the same institution, starting his independent research career. Going through the ranks at Caltech, he was promoted to full professor in early 1997.

In September 1998, Erick Carreira took up his current position at the ETH Zürich, Switzerland, as a full professor. At the interface of natural product synthesis, catalysis and medicinal chemistry, his research focuses on the asymmetric synthesis of stereochemically complex natural products with interesting biological activities. Recent results include a total synthesis of Bafilomycin A<sub>1</sub> (*Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 3598) and the first total synthesis of (±)-Indoxamycin B including a stereochemical reassignment of the natural product (*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 3474).

One of the most important aspects in such complex, multistep natural product syntheses is the application of catalytically efficient stoichiometric reagents leading to a continuously improved reaction design. Some recent advances have been achieved, for example, in the generation of trifluoromethyl-substituted aziridines (*Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 1900) and cyclopropanes (*Org. Lett.* **2011**, *13*, 3080).



Erick M. Carreira

Erick Carreira is author or co-author of more than 200 scientific papers and book chapters. He is also the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Fresenius Award (1996), the ACS Award in Pure Chemistry (1997), the Nobel Laureate Signature Award (1999), the Thieme–IUPAC Prize (2002), Young Investigator Awards from both Merck and Eli Lilly, and a Teacher Scholar Award as well as a New Faculty Award from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation.

On behalf of the Board of Editors of *SYNFACTS* and the Editorial Office at Thieme, I extend a warm welcome to Erick Carreira and his group of contributors and wish them great success in their work. With his expertise he will be sure to serve you, the readers of *SYNFACTS*, by selecting the best and most exciting research results in the field of natural product synthesis.

Susanne Haak  
Managing Editor