ORGANIC REACTIONS INC.

Organic Reactions was conceptualized at the 1939 National Organic Symposium as the brainchild of Roger Adams and some of the Organic Syntheses editorial board members. Organic Reactions was conceived as a collection of articles about specific reactions with which the authors had firsthand experience. The unique features of Organic Reactions distinguishing it from other review vehicles include exhaustive literature surveys, complete compilation of extant examples and representative, detailed experimental procedures. Adams served as president and editor in chief from 1942 until 1960 when Volume 10 was published. A. C. Cope succeeded Adams until his death in 1966, when W. G. Dauben assumed that position followed by A. S. Kende, L. A Paquette, L. E. Overman, S. E. Denmark, and currently P. Andrew Evans. In defining the goals and mission of Organic Reactions, Adams wrote: "In the course of nearly every program of research in organic chemistry the investigator finds it necessary to use several of the better-known synthetic reactions." To discover the optimum conditions for the application of even the most familiar one to a compound not previously subjected to the reaction often requires an extensive search of the literature; even then a series of experiments may be necessary. The volumes of Organic Reactions are collections of chapters each devoted to a single reaction, or a definite phase of a reaction, of wide applicability.

ORGANIC REACTIONS INC. CONTINUED

The subjects are presented from the preparative viewpoint, and particular attention is given to limitations, interfering influences, effects of structure, and the selection of experimental techniques. The authors of articles in Organic Reactions receive no royalties, and the editors do their work as a public service. The success of this enterprise involves the dedicated efforts of many prominent chemists who devote their efforts to the time-consuming job of editing of chapters and producing volumes. It is remarkable that Adams' legacy of interest in organic chemistry, in organic chemists, and in students still motivates those who carry this important resource forward.

Scott E. Denmark, University of Illinois
Editor-in-Chief, 2008-2018

PREVIOUS ORGANIC REACTIONS INC. LECTURES

2021 • P. Knochel

2018 • M. J. Krische

2023 • D. G. Hall

Queen's Chemistry

Department of Chemistry
Queen's University

is honoured to host the 2023 Organic Reactions Inc. Lecturer:

Dr. Robert Britton

Simon Fraser University

ORGANIC REACTIONS

"Exploiting α-Haloaldehydes in Complex Molecule Synthesis"

Friday, September 8, 2023
11:30 AM
Chernoff Hall, Room 117

PROF. ROBERT BRITTON

Robert Britton
Shrum Science Centre
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Dr W, Burnaby, BC
Email: robert_britton@sfu.ca

Professor Robert Britton obtained his B. Sc. from the University of Waterloo in 1996 working with Professor Victor Snieckus. He then earned a Ph. D. in natural product isolation, structural elucidation, and total synthesis from the University of British Columbia in 2002 with Professors Edward Piers and Raymond Anderson. He spent two years at the University of Cambridge with Professor Ian Paterson as an NSERC PDF working on both structural assignment and total synthesis of marine macrolides, then joined the Process Research Group at Merck as a Senior Scientist in 2004. At Merck he made enabling contributions to the large-scale synthesis of the 5-lipoxygenase inhibitor MK-0633. In 2005, he started an independent academic career at Simon Fraser University and was promoted to Professor in 2015. He is a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Career Scholar and has broad research interests that include natural product drug discovery, medicinal chemistry, radiotracer development and insect communication. Research in these areas have led to commercial traps for bed bugs and other crop pests, 18F-labelled amino acids and peptides for PET imaging in oncology, new tools for late-stage modification of drug leads, new processes for improving the manufacture of drugs, and new strategies for synthesizing structurally complex natural products. A particular focus has been on the synthesis and use of α-haloaldehydes as versatile building blocks for complex molecule synthesis.

SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

- Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Lectureship Award (CIC)
  2019
- Innovation to Commercialization Award (MSFHR)
  2017
- Intellisyn RD Research Excellence Award (CIC)
  2016
- F. Hoffmann-La Roche Visiting Scholar Award
  2012
- MSFHR Career Investigator Award
  2011
- Faculty of Science Excellence in Teaching Award
  2008
- Boehringer Ingelheim Young Investigator Award
  2007
- Merck Research Laboratories Award for Scientific Excellence
  2005
- NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowship
  2002