

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, P. A. Evans, and currently K. H. Shaughnessy. 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 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 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

2023 • R. Britton

2023 • D. G. Hall

2021 • P. Knochel

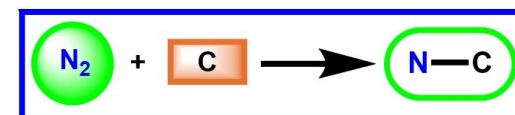
2018 • M. J. Krische



**Department of
Chemistry Queen's
University**

is honoured to host the
2025 Organic Reactions
Inc. Lecturer:

Dr. Zhenfeng Xi
Peking University



"Dinitrogen N₂ Activation
and Transformation
into N-Containing Organic
Compounds"

Friday, October 3, 2025
11:30 AM
Chernoff Hall, Room 117

PROF. ZHENFENG XI



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Professor Zhenfeng Xi was born in 1963 in Henan Province, China. He received his B.Sc. degree from Xiamen University in 1983, and completed his M.Sc. in 1989 through research carried out at Nanjing University, Zhengzhou University and the Henan Institute of Chemistry. In 1993, he joined Professor Tamotsu Takahashi's group at the Institute for Molecular Sciences in Japan, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1996. Following a postdoctoral fellowship with Professor Takahashi, he was appointed as an Assistant Professor at Hokkaido University in 1997. The following year, he joined the College of Chemistry at Peking University, China where he has built a distinguished career. In recognition of his scientific achievements, he was elected an academican of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in 2015.

Prof. Xi has received numerous honors, including the Yaozeng Huang Organometallic Chemistry Award in 2004. He has served, or continues to serve, on the editorial and advisory boards of several international journals, most notably as Associate Editor of Organic Letters (ACS) and Applied Organometallic Chemistry (Wiley).

Since 1998, Prof. Xi has pioneered the discovery and development of organo-dimetallic reagents. His current research focuses exclusively on the direct transformation of dinitrogen (N₂) into nitrogen-carbon (N-C) containing organic compounds. He has published more than 400 peer-reviewed articles and has delivered over 300 plenary and invited lectures at leading international and domestic conferences and institutions.

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Xi, Z., 1,4-Dilithio-1,3-dienes: Reaction and Synthetic Applications, *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2010**, 43, 1342-1451.
- Zhang, W.-X.; Zhang, S.; Xi, Z., Zirconocene and Si-Tethered Dienes: A Happy Match Directed towards Organometallic Chemistry and Organic Synthesis, *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2011**, 44, 541-551.
- Zhang, S.; Zhang, W.-X.; Xi, Z., Semibullvalene and Diazasemibullvalene: Recent Advances in the Synthesis, Reaction Chemistry, and Synthetic Applications, *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, 48, 1823-1831.
- Zhang, Y.; Yu, C.; Huang, Z.; Zhang, W.-X.; Ye, S.; Wei, J.; Xi, Z., Metalla-aromatics: Planar, Nonplanar, and Spiro, *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2021**, 54, 2323-2331.
- Wang, G.-X.; Yin, Z.-B.; Wei, J.; Xi, Z., Dinitrogen Activation and Functionalization Affording Chromium Diazenido and Hydrazido Complexes, *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2023**, 56, 3211-3222.