Editorial Board Focus: Professor Liu-Zhu Gong (University of Science and Technology of China, P. R. of China)

Background and Purpose. From time to time, SYNFORM portraits Thieme Chemistry Editorial Board or Editorial Advisory Board members who answer several questions regarding their research interests and revealing their impressions and views on the developments in organic chemistry as a general research field. This Editorial Board Focus presents Professor Liu-Zhu Gong (University of Science and Technology of China, P. R. of China) who joined the Editorial Board of SYNTHESIS with effect of January 1, 2020.

Biographical Sketch

Prof. L.-Z. Gong

Liu-Zhu Gong was born in October 1970 in Henan, China. He graduated from Henan Normal University (P. R. of China) in 1993. He received his M.S. degree from Chengdu Institute of Organic Chemistry (P. R. of China) in 1996 and Ph.D. from the Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (P. R. of China) in 2000. He was a visiting scholar (Joint PhD graduate student program) at the University of Virginia (USA) and an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow at the University of Munich (Germany). He became an associate professor of Chengdu Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2000 and was promoted to full professor in 2001. Since 2006, he has been a professor at the University of Science and Technology of China. He was appointed the Cheung Kong Scholar Professor of organic chemistry in 2008. He has been continuously working on asymmetric organocatalysis, organo/metal combined catalysis, and the total synthesis of natural products. The related achievements are reported in 162 peer-reviewed articles and 4 book chapters.

INTERVIEW

SYNFORM *Please comment on your role as a member of the Editorial Board of* SYNTHESIS*?*

Prof. L.-Z. Gong SYNTHESIS is one of the preeminent journals with over 50 years of history and holds a great reputation in the community. It has continuously been publishing inspiring contributions in synthetic chemistry. As a member of the editorial board, I am very happy and will try my best to serve for the journal, our authors, and our reviewers.

SYNFORM *How do you describe the value of a product such as* SYNTHESIS *to the chemistry community?*

Prof. L.-Z. Gong Synthetic chemistry is undoubtedly one of the most important fields among the physical sciences. A journal that focuses on publishing the latest scientific findings in synthesis is definitely greatly valuable to many communities, for example, materials science, life science, and even physics, far beyond the scope of the chemistry community.

SYNFORM *What is the focus of your current research activities?*

Prof. L.-Z. Gong My research interest has long been focusing on asymmetric catalysis and organic synthesis, in particular on organocatalysis and organo-metal combined catalysis.

SYNFORM *You are a leading researcher with regard to synthetic organic chemistry and catalysis. Could you tell us more about how important you perceive this particular topic to be?*

Prof. L.-Z. Gong Molecules have ever changed the world and many of them are now still exerting great impact on the society by their functions. The goal of synthetic organic chemistry and catalysis is to create the most efficient methods to make highly valuable molecules from starting materials that cost almost nothing. It is not an overstatement that synthetic organic chemistry and catalysis have changed the world and will continue to do so.