

Thieme Publishers, IUPAC, and the Editors of *SYNTHESIS*, *SYNLETT*, *SYNFACTS*, and *Science of Synthesis* announce the

# Thieme–IUPAC Prize 2018 in Synthetic Organic Chemistry

## Seth Herzon



We are delighted to announce that the 2018 Thieme–IUPAC Prize has been awarded to Seth Herzon of Yale University. Professor Herzon becomes the 14th recipient of the prize, and joins a distinguished group of scientists under the age of 40 years whose research has had a major impact on the field of synthetic organic

chemistry. The prize, which is awarded every two years and includes an award of €5000, will be presented to Seth Herzon on September 19, 2018, at the ICOS-22 conference in Florence, Italy, after his Thieme–IUPAC lecture.

Seth Herzon completed his undergraduate studies at Temple University, and then obtained a PhD from Harvard University, where he worked under the guidance of Professor Andrew G. Myers. Following that, he spent two years as an NIH postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Professor John F. Hartwig at the University of Illinois. In 2008, he began his independent career at Yale, where he was promoted to Associate Professor in 2012 and Full Professor in 2013. As of 2015 he holds a joint appointment as Professor of Pharmacology at the Yale School of Medicine.

Herzon's research centers on the synthesis of complex molecules, and applying the skills and knowledge gained in this work to the investigation of complicated biological processes, particularly in the context of understanding potentially unique mechanisms involved in cancer. He is also interested in studies of microbiome-derived natural products and antibiotic development. His laboratory has

developed enantioselective synthetic routes to kinamycin F, lomaiviticin aglycon, the hasubanan and acutumine alkaloids, batzelladine B, pleuromutilin, huperzine A, and precolibactins A–C, among others. Inspired by challenges in natural product synthesis, he has also developed new methods for the metal-mediated functionalization of alkenes and alkynes.

Seth Herzon's creativity and achievements in the field of target-oriented synthesis alone are exceptional, and his organometallic chemistry program stands to impact not only synthetic methodology, but long-standing fundamental questions pertinent to mechanism. In addition, his investigations into the molecular details and mechanism at the interface between chemistry and biology have led to novel biosynthetic discoveries, with potentially important consequences for molecular medicine.

### Members of the 2018 Selection Committee:

E. M. Carreira	Zurich, Switzerland
S. E. Denmark	Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA
K. Ding	Shanghai, China
K. Itami	Nagoya, Japan
P. Knochel	Munich, Germany
C. Nevado	Zurich, Switzerland
M. Sanford	Ann Arbor, MI, USA
V. Snieckus	Kingston, Canada



# Thieme–IUPAC Prize **2018**

in Synthetic Organic Chemistry

2016

**Neil Garg**

University of California, Los Angeles



2002

**Erick M. Carreira**

ETH Zurich



2014

**Martin D. Burke**

University of Illinois



2000

**Alois Fürstner**

Max Planck Institute for Coal Research



2012

**Melanie S. Sanford**

University of Michigan



1998

**Andrew G. Myers**

California Institute of Technology



2010

**Phil S. Baran**

Scripps Research Institute



1996

**Eric N. Jacobsen**

Harvard University



2008

**F. Dean Toste**

University of California, Berkeley



1994

**Paul Knochel**

Philipps University of Marburg



2006

**David W.C. MacMillan**

California Institute of Technology



1992

**Stuart L. Schreiber**

Harvard University



2004

**John F. Hartwig**

Yale University



## Members of past Selection Committees

V. Aggarwal, J.E. Baldwin, A.G.M. Barrett, D. Bellus, D. Black, C. Bolm, M. Brimble, K.-H. Büchel, E.M. Carreira (Chairman), A.B. Charette, D. Clive, P. Confalone, E.J. Corey, J. Cossy, D. Curran, C. Decicco, S. Denmark, K. Ding, K. Ditrich, A. Echavarren, D. Evans, V. Farina, I. Fleming, A. Fürstner, L. Ghosez, R. Grubbs, D. Hall, S. Hanessian, T. Hayashi, C.H. Heathcock, D. Hoppe, A. Hoveyda, E.N. Jacobsen, E. Juaristi, H. Kagan, K.P. Kaliappan, S. Kim, Y. Kishi, P. Knochel, K. Koga, M. Krische, N.J. Leonard, E. Lee, S.V. Ley, D. Ma, D.W.C. MacMillan, J. Macor, M. Makosza, L. Mander, I. Marek, S. Martin, P. Mátyus, G. Mehta, S. Murai, A.G. Myers, K.C. Nicolaou, R. Noyori, K. Nozaki, M. Oki, W. Oppolzer, L. Overman, E. Piers, M. Reetz, M. Regitz, P. Reider, M.A. Rizzacasa, P. Savage, C. Scolastico, K.B. Sharpless, M. Shibasaki, V. Snieckus (Chairman), W.N. Speckamp, L. Sydnes, E. J. Thomas, B.M. Trost, B. Volkman, J. Wölfling, H. Yamamoto, Y. Yamamoto