Editorial Board Focus: Dr. rer. nat. Akimitsu Narita (Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, Japan)

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 Dr. rer. nat. Akimitsu Narita (Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, Japan) who joined the Editorial Board of Organic Materials with effect of January 2023.

Biographical Sketch

Dr. rer. nat. A. Narita

Akimitsu Narita was born and raised in Yokohama, Japan. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in chemistry at the University of Tokyo (Japan) under the supervision of Professor Eiichi Nakamura. He then joined Professor Klaus Müllen's group at the Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research (MPIP) in Mainz, Germany and obtained his doctorate in chemistry from Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz in 2014. In the same year, he became a project leader in the Synthetic Chemistry Department at MPIP. In 2018, he joined OIST as an Assistant Professor (Adjunct) to lead the Organic and Carbon Nanomaterials Unit. He is now working full-time as an Assistant Professor at OIST since 2020.

INTERVIEW

SYNFORM *You are a leading researcher in the field of organic materials science. Could you tell us more about the importance of that field and your current research activities?*

Dr. rer. nat. A. Narita Organic materials can be the basis for the development of new technologies as well as for the advancement of various fields of sciences. My group is currently focused on the synthesis and characterizations of large polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and other related nanocarbon molecules with unique structures and properties. Through the elucidation of the structure–property relationship, we aim at developing materials with optimal optoelectronic and photophysical properties for potential applications, including organic lasers, bioimaging, and solar energy conversion.

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

Dr. rer. nat. A. Narita I am excited to serve as an Associate Editor of this young journal and contribute to its further development, especially strengthening its coverage of carbon-rich organic materials and synthetic methods beyond the conventional organic synthesis.

SYNFORM *Could you tell us something about yourself outside the lab, such as your hobbies or extra-work interests?*

Dr. rer. nat. A. Narita I played the trumpet in a university orchestra during my studies and still like to listen to classical music.

