

## Editorial Board Focus: Professor Martin Oestreich (Technische Universität Berlin, Germany)

**Background and Purpose.** 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 Martin Oestreich (Technische Universität Berlin, Germany) who joined the Editorial Board of SYNTHESIS with effect of April 1, 2021.

### Biographical Sketch



Prof. M. Oestreich

**Martin Oestreich** is Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Technische Universität Berlin; his appointment was supported by the Einstein Foundation Berlin. He received his diploma degree with Paul Knochel (Marburg, Germany, 1996) and his doctoral degree with Dieter Hoppe (Münster, Germany, 1999). After a two-year postdoctoral stint with Larry E. Overman (Irvine, USA, 1999–2001), he completed his habilitation with Reinhard Brückner (Freiburg, Germany, 2001–2005) and was appointed as Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (2006–2011). He also held visiting positions at Cardiff University in Wales (UK, 2005), at The Australian National University in Canberra (Australia, 2010), and at Kyoto University in Japan (2018). Martin's research mainly focuses on silicon in synthesis and catalysis. His early work centered around the use of silicon-stereogenic silicon reagents in asymmetric catalysis, and his laboratory continues to employ them as stereochemical probes in mechanistic investigations. His research group made fundamental contributions to catalytic carbon–silicon bond formation with nucleophilic and, likewise, electrophilic silicon reagents, and Martin is probably best known for his work in silylium-ion chemistry. Recent accomplishments of his laboratory include the synthesis of the “fat proton”  $\text{H}_3\text{Si}^+$  and the dynamic kinetic resolution of alcohols by enantioselective silylation. Martin recently edited a monograph entitled *Organosilicon Chemistry: Novel Approaches and Reactions* together with Tamejiro Hiyama.

### INTERVIEW

**SYNFORM** Please comment on your role as a member of the Editorial Board of SYNTHESIS with a focus on your specific role.

**Prof. M. Oestreich** SYNTHESIS stepped into my life when I joined the group of Professor Dieter Hoppe nearly 25 years ago. I have been a follower of the journal ever since, and it is an honor for me to indirectly and directly succeed my former mentors Dieter Hoppe and Paul Knochel, respectively. As an editor of SYNTHESIS handling review articles, my goal is to maintain and further strengthen the journal's high visibility and top-level quality. These are times of changes in the publishing business, with new journals – and, as such, competitors – appearing regularly, but winning papers from the leaders and rising stars of their fields for SYNTHESIS is a challenge I am more than happy to accept.

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

**Prof. M. Oestreich** Review articles have always been central to the journal's content and continue to be an important reference for the chemistry community. This is why I believe that SYNTHESIS belongs to the relevant journals in the area of synthetic chemistry. It offers a great package with comprehensive reviews, timely short reviews, and original contributions.

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

**Prof. M. Oestreich** We are broadly interested in chemistry involving the main-group element silicon. I find it difficult to single out certain research activities, but our recently introduced ionic transfer processes driven by aromatization have

given us a lot of joy. It began with transfer hydrosilylation and developed into a general strategy for hydrofunctionalization of carbon-carbon multiple bonds using stable cyclohexadiene-based surrogates.

A handwritten signature in orange ink that reads "Mattes Fenske".