Highlights from Top Pre-Tenure Faculty



"Behind one door is tenure - behind the other is flipping burgers at McDonald's."

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Jennifer Alleva MacMillan Group Meeting May 2nd 2012

■ Who are the assistant professors in the top 50 chemistry departments?

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Currently 95 pre-tenure faculty in chemistry

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85% of assistant chemistry professors are male

15% are female

14% were not trained in the U.S.

Who are the assistant professors in the top 50 chemistry departments?

Currently 95 pre-tenure faculty in chemistry

85% of assistant chemistry professors are male

15% are female

14% were not trained in the U.S.

Who are the assistant professors in the top 10 chemistry departments?

Currently 16 pre-tenure faculty

13 of these assistant professors are male

2 of these assistant professors were not trained in the U.S.

3 of these assistant professors are women

Which institutions trained these current assistant faculty?

80% of assistant chemistry professors were trained at a top 10 department

Caltech Harvard MIT Berkeley UIUC Northwestern Stanford Scripps UW Madison Columbia Cornell

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Which labs did they come from?

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Which labs did they come from?

Eric Jacobsen Larry Overman Bergman/Ellman

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#### Which labs did they come from?

Eric Jacobsen	<ul> <li>6 Students pre-tenure</li> <li>as of April 2012</li> <li>Am</li> <li>Pat</li> <li>Re</li> </ul>	Bob Grubbs	■ 4 Students pre-tenure
Larry Overman		Amir Hoveyda	as of April 2012
Bergman/Ellman		Patrick Walsh	
		Reza Ghadiri	
		Dave Evans	
	S	Samuel Danishefskv	

What are the current research interests within the field of organic chemistry?

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95 pre-tenure faculty currently in organic chemistry

53 within Organic Synthesis and Methodology

23 Chemical Biology

**19 Organic Materials** 

What are the current research interests within the field of organic chemistry?

95 pre-tenure faculty currently in organic chemistry

53 within Organic Synthesis and Methodology

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**19 Organic Materials** 

What are assistant professors studying at the top 10 departments?

5 within Organic Synthesis and Methodology

6 Chemical Biology

5 Materials

What are the current research interests within the field of organic chemistry?

95 pre-tenure faculty currently in organic chemistry

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**19 Organic Materials** 

What are assistant professors studying at the top 10 departments?

5 within Organic Synthesis and Methodology

6 Chemical Biology

5 Materials

What does this information indicate for the future of organic chemistry?

## *How to select the top 5 pre-tenure faculty*

#### Criteria:

- United States institutions
- Limiting survey to organic chemists
- Must have published papers to define the goals of their program
- No MacMillan group alumni or Princeton Chemistry faculty

Highlights from top Pre-tenure Faculty



Sarah Reisman

Caltech

# Sarah Reisman Caltech





- Caltech 2008-present
- Ph.D. with John Wood on the total synthesis of Welwitindolinone A Isonitrile
- Postodoctoral studies with Eric Jacobsen on thiourea catalyzed additions to oxocarbenium ions

Reisman, S.E.; Ready, J.M.; Weiss, M.M.; Hasuoka, A.; Tamaki, K.; Ovaska, T.V.; Wood, J.L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 2087 Reisman, S.E.; Doyle, A.G.; Jacobsen, E.N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 7198

#### Research in the Reisman Lab

Total synthesis and synthetic methodology

#### Total synthesis of complex natural products









(+)-Salvileucalin B

(-)-Maoecrystal Z

Codelli, J. A.; Puchlopek, A. L. A.; Reisman, S.E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 1930-1933.
 Z. Cha, J. Y.; Yeoman, J. T. S.; Reisman, S.E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 14965.
 Chuang, K.V.; Navarro, R.N.; Reisman, S.E. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2011, 50, 9447.
 Levin, S.; Nani, R.N.; Reisman, S.E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 774.

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Total synthesis and synthetic methodology

#### Total synthesis of complex natural products





OMe





- (-)-8-Demethoxyrunanine
- (+)-Salvileucalin B
- (-)-Maoecrystal Z

#### Revival of the Buchner reaction for the synthesis of cyclopropane rings



Codelli, J. A.; Puchlopek, A. L. A.; Reisman, S.E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 1930-1933. Z. Cha, J. Y.; Yeoman, J. T. S.; Reisman, S.E. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 14965. Chuang, K.V.; Navarro, R.N.; Reisman, S.E. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 9447. Levin, S.; Nani, R.N.; Reisman, S.E. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 774.

Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

Buchner reaction for the formation of 7-membered rings



Reisman, S.E.; Nani, R. R., Levin, S. Synlett, 2011, 17, 2437.

Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

Buchner reaction for the formation of 7-membered rings



#### Isomerization of cycloheptatriene provides a thermodynamic mixture



"Buchner Esters"

Reisman, S.E.; Nani, R. R., Levin, S. Synlett, 2011, 17, 2437.

Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

#### Retrosynthesis of Salvileucalin B



(+)-Salvileucalin B

Levin, S.; Nani, R.R.; Reisman, S.E. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 780

Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

#### Retrosynthesis of Salvileucalin B



(+)-Salvileucalin B



Levin, S.; Nani, R.R.; Reisman, S.E. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 780

Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

#### Retrosynthesis of Salvileucalin B



Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

#### Retrosynthesis of Salvileucalin B



Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

Application of the Buchner reaction for the synthesis of Salvileucalin B



entry	catalyst	yield (%)
1	Rh(OAc) <sub>4</sub>	14
2	Rh(cap) <sub>4</sub>	1
3	Rh(tfa) <sub>4</sub>	5

Levin, S.; Nani, R.R.; Reisman, S.E. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 780.

Intercepting the norcaradiene intermediate

Application of the Buchner reaction for the synthesis of Salvileucalin B



entry	catalyst	yield (%)
1	Rh(OAc) <sub>4</sub>	14
2	Rh(cap) <sub>4</sub>	1
3	Rh(tfa) <sub>4</sub>	5
4	Cu(acac) <sub>2</sub>	30
5	Cu(tfacac) <sub>2</sub>	50 (73)*
6	Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub>	40
7	Cu(TMHD) <sub>2</sub>	28
8	Cu(TBS) <sub>2</sub>	11

\*Isolated yield, slow addition of a-diazoketone

Levin, S.; Nani, R.R.; Reisman, S.E. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 780.

# Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of triyne precurser

Enantioselective synthesis of cycloisomerization precurser





chiral ligand

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Enantioselective synthesis of cycloisomerization precurser



Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of Buchner precurser

Metal-catalyzed cycloisomerization and synthesis of cyclopropanation precursor



Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of Buchner precurser

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Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of Buchner precurser

Metal-catalyzed cycloisomerization and synthesis of cyclopropanation precursor



# Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of Norcaradiene Core

#### Application of Cu-mediated Buchner reaction



# Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of Norcaradiene Core

#### Application of Cu-mediated Buchner reaction



# Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B Synthesis of Norcaradiene Core

#### Application of Cu-mediated Buchner reaction



# Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B End game

Synthesis of lactone and oxidation of tetrahydrofuran


## Enantioselective Total Synthesis of Salvileucalin B End game

#### Synthesis of lactone and oxidation of tetrahydrofuran







Me

1:2 ratio

Levin, S.; Nani, R.N.; Reisman, S.E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 774.

### Research in the Reisman Lab

Total synthesis and synthetic methodology

#### Total synthesis of complex natural products





OMe





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# Highlights from top Pre-tenure Faculty



Sarah Reisman

Caltech



Neil Garg

UCLA

# Neil Garg



- Assistant Professor at UCLA 2007-present
- Ph.D. with Brian Stoltz on the total synthesis of Dragmacidin D and F
- Postdoctoral work with Larry Overman on the total synthesis of (–)-Sarain A

Garg, Neil, K; Hiebert, Sheldon; Larry E. Overman. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2006, *45*, 2912.
Garg, Neil, K; Caspi, Daniel D.; Brian M. Stoltz. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2004, *126*, 9552.
Garg, Neil, K; Sarpong, R.; Brian M. Stoltz. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2002, *124*, 13179.

#### Synthesis of complex natural products



N-Methylwelwitindolinone C Isothiocyanate





Indolactam V

Aspidophylline A

#### Synthesis of complex natural products







N-Methylwelwitindolinone C Isothiocyanate

Indolactam V

Aspidophylline A

#### Development of novel synthetic methods



Intercepting Indolyne

#### Synthesis of complex natural products







N-Methylwelwitindolinone C Isothiocyanate

Indolactam V

Aspidophylline A

#### Development of novel synthetic methods



Umpolong of the Indole heterocycle



Indole

Umpolong of the Indole heterocycle



Umpolong of the Indole heterocycle



Umpolong of the Indole heterocycle



Preference for C-5 attack of nucleophile observed experimentally

Experimental regioselectivity compares to computational prediction



Nucleophile	Yield, Ratio (C-5/C-4)	Computed
Me	80%, 3:1	∆∆G <sup>‡</sup> =2.8 115:1
	91%, 12.5:1	∆∆G <sup>‡</sup> =3.0 160:1
N <sub>3</sub> —Bn	86%, 2.4:1	∆∆G <sup>‡</sup> =0.6 2.5:1
KCN	85%, 3.3:1	C-5 preferred







Nu attack at C-4 increases unfavorable distortion:  $\theta_{ccc}$  becomes 108°



Nu attack at C-4 increases unfavorable distortion:  $\theta_{ccc}$  becomes 108°



preference for C-5 attack diminished C-5 and C-6 have similar  $\theta$ 



C-6 attack exclusively

#### Lessons learned from computation:

more planar site is preferred for nucleophilic attack more electropositive carbon is preferred site for nucleophilic attack

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Can inclusion of a C-6 bromine direct nucleophilic attack to C-4?

Lessons learned from computation:

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Can inclusion of a C-6 bromine direct nucleophilic attack to C-4?

C-4 
$$\theta_{ccc} = 130^{\circ}$$

C-5  $\theta_{ccc} = 124^{\circ}$ 

Bromine reverses selectivity of nucleophilic addition for a variety of nucleophiles



Synthesis of Indolactam V



Synthesis of Indolactam V

Me Me н Me TMS Me. Me OMe TfO. 0 CsF Ö Me ЮH OMe CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 0°C to r.t. Br Ö (62% yield) OH B Me. Me Me. 1. H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, Et<sub>3</sub>N, MeOH OMe 0 2. Ac<sub>2</sub>O, AcOH, 23°C 3. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 65°C (69% yield, 3 steps)

Synthesis of Indolactam V

Me Me Me TMS Me Me OMe TfO. Ο CsF Ö Me ЮH OMe CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 0°C to r.t. Br Ö (62% yield) OH B Me. Me Me Me. н н Me. Me. 1. H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, Et<sub>3</sub>N, MeOH ZrCl<sub>4</sub> `OMe OMe || 0 0 2. Ac<sub>2</sub>O, AcOH, 23°C CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 34°C 3. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 65°C (56% yield, 24% RSM) (69% yield, 3 steps)

Synthesis of Indolactam V



Reversing the Regioselectivity in Nucleophilic Additions to Indolyne Application to the synthesis of N-MethylWelwitindolinone C Isothiocyante

Assembly of [4.3.1] bicycle through indolyne cyclization



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Assembly of [4.3.1] bicycle through indolyne cyclization



Huters, A. D.,; Quasdorf, K. W.; Styduhar, E. D.; Garg, Neil, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 3832.

Reversing the Regioselectivity in Nucleophilic Additions to Indolyne Application to the synthesis of N-MethylWelwitindolinone C Isothiocyante

Assembly of [4.3.1] bicycle through indolyne cyclization



Huters, A. D.,; Quasdorf, K. W.; Styduhar, E. D.; Garg, Neil, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 3832.

#### Synthesis of complex natural products







N-Methylwelwitindolinone C Isothiocyanate

Indolactam V

Aspidophylline A

#### Development of novel synthetic methods



# Highlights from top Pre-tenure Faculty



Sarah Reisman

Caltech



Neil Garg UCLA



Gojko Lalic

University of Washington

# Gojko Lalic University of Washington



- Assistant Professor, University of Washington 2008-present
- Postdoctoral fellow with E. J. Corey on the synthesis of Platensimycin
- Postdoctoral fellow with R. Bergman studying the reactions of zirconium complexes
- Ph.D. with Matt Shair studying the metal catalyzed thioester aldol and Mannich reactions

Research in the Lalic Lab Organic Synthesis and Synthetic Methodology

Novel methods in copper catalysis



Boronic Esters

Asymmetric Synthesis of Trisubstituted Allenes

Η

`Me

Research in the Lalic Lab Organic Synthesis and Synthetic Methodology

Novel methods in copper catalysis



Synthesis of Hindered Anilines

Anti-Markovnikov Hydroamination

■ *N*-Aryl structural motif highly prevalent in medicinal agents



N-Aryl structural motif highly prevalent in medicinal agents



- No method of direct synthesis of a product prefunctionalized with –I or –Br
- Most methods require excess of one coupling partner
- Chan-Lam amination is incompatable with hindered substrates









Ar–B(OR) <sub>2</sub>	L	М	Solvent	Yield (%)
1	IMes	Na	THF	<5
2	IMes	Na	THF	16
3	IMes	Na	THF	72






# Copper-Catalyzed Electrophilic Amination of Aryl Boronic Esters Synthesis of Hindered Anilines







# Copper-Catalyzed Electrophilic Amination of Aryl Boronic Esters Synthesis of Hindered Anilines



Ar–B(OR) <sub>2</sub>	L	М	Solvent	Yield (%)
3	Xantphos	Na	1,4-dioxane	99
4	Xantphos	Na	1,4-dioxane	8
4	Xantphos	Li	1,4-dioxane	56





# Copper-Catalyzed Electrophilic Amination of Aryl Boronic Esters Synthesis of Hindered Anilines



	Ar–B(OR) <sub>2</sub>	L	М	Solvent	Yield (%)	
	3	Xantphos	Na	1,4-dioxane	99	
	4	Xantphos	Na	1,4-dioxane	8	
	4	Xantphos	Li	1,4-dioxane	56	
<b>`</b>	4	Xantphos	Li	PhMe	74	
3	4	Xantphos	Li	PhMe	81	С
)	4	Xantphos	Li	PhMe	94 ∫ 60°0	С
	N.4					





PPh<sub>2</sub> PPh<sub>2</sub> O Me Me

#### Copper-Catalyzed Electrophilic Amination of Aryl Boronic Esters Substrate Scope



Rucker, R. P.; Whittaker, A. M.; Fang, H.; Gojko Lalic Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 3953.



Rucker, R. P.; Whittaker, A. M.; Fang, H.; Gojko Lalic Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 3953.











Rucker, R. P.; Whittaker, A. M.; Fang, H.; Gojko Lalic Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 3953.



simple olefin

Single Regioisomer of Tertiary Alkylamine



simple olefin

Single Regioisomer of Tertiary Alkylamine



Can this be achieved through a novel hydroboration-amination procedure?





#### Initial Studies



Entry	R <sub>2</sub> N–OBz	Μ	Cosolvent	Yield
1		Na	1,4-dioxane	16%
2	Bn Bn	К	1,4-dioxane	11%
3	ÓBz	Li	1,4-dioxane	56%
4		Li	pentane	97%

Initial Studies 9-BBN-H, 1,4-dioxane  $R_1$ 60°C, 12h then Ph'  $R_2$ Ph R<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>N-OBz, MOtBu ICyCuCl (5 mol%) solvent, 45°C, 6h R<sub>2</sub>N–OBz Μ Cosolvent Yield Entry 5 Li <5% pentane ÔBz



Initial Studies



Entry	R <sub>2</sub> N–OBz	М	Cosolvent	Yield
5		Li	pentane	<5%
6 <sup>1</sup>		Li	pentane	52%

<sup>1</sup>Electrophile added over 6 hours

Initial Studies



Entry	R <sub>2</sub> N–OBz	М	Cosolvent	Yield
5		Li	pentane	<5%
61	$\bigcap^{\circ}$	Li	pentane	52%
7 <sup>2</sup>	N N OBz	Li	toluene	86%
8 <sup>3</sup>		Li	toluene	99%

<sup>1</sup>Electrophile added over 6 hours <sup>2</sup>Electrophile added over 3 hours <sup>3</sup>60°C





Research in the Lalic Lab Organic Synthesis and Synthetic Methodology

Novel methods in copper catalysis



Synthesis of Hindered Anilines

Anti-Markovnikov Hydroamination

# Highlights from top Pre-tenure Faculty



Sarah Reisman

Caltech



Neil Garg UCLA



Gojko Lalic University of Washington



Corey Stephenson Boston University

Corey Stephenson Boston University



- Assistant Professor at Boston University 2007-present
- Ph.D. with Peter Wipf on the development of alkylzirconocene catalyzed C-C bond formations
- Postdoctoral work with Erick Carreira in asymmetric catalysis using chiral diene ligands

#### Research in the Stephenson Group Photoredox Catalysis

Photoredox catalysis



Photoredox Aza-Henry



Nucleophilic trapping of iminiums generated through photoredox

Complex molecule synthesis



gliocladin C



syringolin A

Research in the Stephenson Group Photoredox Catalysis



Coord. Chem. Rev. 1988, 84, 85.

#### Research in the Stephenson Group

Photoredox Catalysis



Coord. Chem. Rev. 1988, 84, 85.

# Research in the Stephenson Group

Photoredox Catalysis



Coord. Chem. Rev. 1988, 84, 85.

Oxidative functionalization of tertiary amines



Tucker, J. W.; Stephenson, C. R. J. *J. Org. Chem* **2012**, *77*, 1617. McNally, A.; Prier, C. K.; MacMillan, D. W. C. Science, **2011**, *334*, *1114*.

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Oxidative functionalization of tertiary amines





# **Research in the Stephenson Group** Photoredox Catalysis for Amine Functionalization **Oxidative functionalization of tertiary amines** $R = R_1^{R_1} + R_2^{R_2} + R_2^{R_1} + R_2^{R_2} + R_2^{R_1} + R_2^{R_2} + R_2^{R_2$

 $Ru(bpy)_3^{2+*}$   $Ru(bpy)_3^+$ 

 $R_2$ 

amine radical cation





#### Photoredox Catalyzed Aza-Henry Reaction

Photoredox Catalysis for Amine Functionalization

#### Initial Studies



\* percent conversion

#### Photoredox Catalyzed Aza-Henry Reaction

Photoredox Catalysis for Amine Functionalization

#### Initial Studies



Photocatalyst	Oxidant	Solvent	Nucleophile	Yield
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	OMe	73%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	MeOH	OMe	100%*
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	no additive	MeOH	OMe	100%*
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	no additive	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	81%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	degassed	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	76%

\* percent conversion

#### Photoredox Catalyzed Aza-Henry Reaction

Photoredox Catalysis for Amine Functionalization

#### Initial Studies



	Photocatalyst	Oxidant	Solvent	Nucleophile	Yield
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> 2+	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	OMe	73%
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	MeOH	OMe	100%*
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	no additive	MeOH	OMe	100%*
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	no additive	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	81%
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	degassed	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	76%
	lr(ppy) <sub>2</sub> (dtbbpy)PF <sub>6</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	92%
no light	lr(ppy) <sub>2</sub> (dtbbpy)PF <sub>6</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	0%*
	no catalyst: 7.5 days	O <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	83%*

\* percent conversion

#### Photoredox Catalyzed Aza-Henry Reaction Substrate Scope Ir(ppy)<sub>2</sub>(dtbbpy)PF<sub>6</sub> (2 mol%) CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> neat `Ph Ph visible light, air $NO_2$ MeO N. Ν. **`**Ph **`**Ph **`**Ph MeO **`**Ph CI $NO_2$ NO<sub>2</sub> NO<sub>2</sub> NO<sub>2</sub> Me 92% 96% 95% 92% NO<sub>2</sub> Ph $NO_2$ Me NO<sub>2</sub> OMe `OMe 96% 96% 27%

Condie, A. G.; Gonzalez-Gomez, J. C.; Stephenson, C. R. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 1464






Photocatalyst	Oxidant	Solvent	Yield
lr(ppy) <sub>2</sub> (dtbbpy)PF <sub>6</sub>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	36%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	95%



Photocatalyst	Oxidant	Solvent	Yield
lr(ppy) <sub>2</sub> (dtbbpy)PF <sub>6</sub>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	36%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> ²+	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	95%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	CCl <sub>4</sub> /DMF 1:1	DMF	36%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> ²+	CCI <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	53%
Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	60%



_	Photocatalyst	Oxidant	Solvent	Yield	
	lr(ppy) <sub>2</sub> (dtbbpy)PF <sub>6</sub>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	36%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	95%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	CCl <sub>4</sub> /DMF 1:1	DMF	36%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	CCI <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	53%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	60%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	85%	)
Bu₄NCN as Nu	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	17%	iminium pre-generated



-	Photocatalyst	Oxidant	Solvent	Yield	
	lr(ppy) <sub>2</sub> (dtbbpy)PF <sub>6</sub>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	36%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	(EtO <sub>2</sub> C) <sub>2</sub> CHBr	DMF	95%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	CCl <sub>4</sub> /DMF 1:1	DMF	36%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	CCl <sub>4</sub>	CH₃CN	53%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	60%	
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	85%	)
Bu₄NCN as Nu	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	DMF	17%	iminium
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	THF	NR	pre-generaled
	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	BrCCl <sub>3</sub>	2:1 THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	83%	J

# Nucleophilic Trapping of Iminium Intermediates

Photoredox Catalysis





### Research in the Stephenson Group Photoredox Catalysis

Photoredox catalysis



Photoredox Aza-Henry



Nucleophilic trapping of iminiums generated through photoredox

Complex molecule synthesis



gliocladin C



syringolin A

# Highlights from top Pre-tenure Faculty



Sarah Reisman

Caltech



Neil Garg UCLA



Gojko Lalic University of Washington



Corey Stephenson Boston University

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Corey Stephenson Boston University Regan Thomson Northwestern

Regan Thomson Northwestern University



- Assistant Professor at Northwestern 2007-present
- Ph.D. with Prof. L. Mander, total synthesis of *Sordaricin*
- Solution Postdoctoral work with Prof. Dave Evans developing enantioselective *Ni* catalyzed methods

■ Novel methods for C–C bond construction



Oxidative Couplings of Silyl Enol Ethers



Traceless Reaction Development

Novel methods for C–C bond construction



Oxidative Couplings of Silyl Enol Ethers



Traceless Reaction Development

#### Total synthesis of complex natural products







Prodigiosin R1 (R=iPr)

GB17

Streptorubin B

Novel methods for C–C bond construction



Oxidative Couplings of Silyl Enol Ethers



#### Total synthesis of complex natural products



Traceless Bond Construction Bond Formation without an Obvious Retron

E Formation of a new  $\sigma$ -bond without extrusion of a functional handle



Mundal, D. A.; Avetta, C. T.; Thomson, R. J. *Nature Chem.* **2010**, *2*, 294. Stevens, R. V. et al. *Chem. Commun.* **1973**, 662. Traceless Bond Construction Bond Formation without an Obvious Retron

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Steven's thermal rearrangement of *N*-allylhydrazones



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Utilizing N-allylhydrazones in Synthesis



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#### Optimization of Cu promoted rearrangement



Cu(II) Promoted [3,3] Sigmatropic Rearrangement Tandem C–C and C–CI Bond Formation

#### Optimization of Cu promoted rearrangement



Entry	Solvent	Temp (°C)	CuCl <sub>2</sub> (equiv)	time (h)	Conversion (%)
1	PhMe	110	0	24	0
2	PhMe	23	1	24	0
3	THF	23	1	24	0
4	MeOH	23	1	24	0
5	DCM	23	1	24	25

Cu(II) Promoted [3,3] Sigmatropic Rearrangement Tandem C–C and C–CI Bond Formation

#### Optimization of Cu promoted rearrangement



Entry	Solvent	Temp (°C)	CuCl <sub>2</sub> (equiv)	time (h)	Conversion (%)
1	PhMe	110	0	24	0
2	PhMe	23	1	24	0
3	THF	23	1	24	0
4	MeOH	23	1	24	0
5	DCM	23	1	24	25
6	MeCN	23	1	24	28
7	MeCN	23	4	16	100

Cu(II) Promoted [3,3] Sigmatropic Rearrangement Tandem C–C and C–Cl Bond Formation

#### Optimization of Cu promoted rearrangement



Entry	Solvent	Temp (°C)	CuCl <sub>2</sub> (equiv)	time (h)	Conversion (%)
1	PhMe	110	0	24	0
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3	THF	23	1	24	0
4	MeOH	23	1	24	0
5	DCM	23	1	24	25
6	MeCN	23	1	24	28
7	MeCN	23	4	16	100
8	MeCN	82	4	0.3	100



#### New approach broadens substrate scope



#### New approach broadens substrate scope















93:7 er















Novel methods for C–C bond construction



Oxidative Couplings of Silyl Enol Ethers



Traceless Reaction Development

#### Total synthesis of complex natural products





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