

Biographies



Reinhard Bruckner (born 1955) studied chemistry at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, acquiring his doctoral degree under the supervision of Rolf Huisgen. After postdoctoral studies with Paul A. Wender (Stanford University), he completed his habilitation in collaboration with Reinhard Hoffmann (Philipps-Universität Marburg). He was appointed associate professor at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and full professor at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen before he moved to his current position in 1998 (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg). Professor Bruckner's research interests are the total synthesis of natural products and the development of synthetic methodology. Besides being the author of 150 publications he has written 4 textbooks, for one of which he was awarded the Literature Prize of the Foundation of the German Chemical Industry. He has been a Visiting Professor in the US, Spain, and Japan, and served as an elected peer reviewer of the German Research Foundation and as the Vice-President of the Division of Organic Chemistry of the German Chemical Society.



Michael Harmata was born in Chicago on September 22, 1959. He obtained his A.B. in chemistry from the University of Illinois-Chicago in 1980. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana working with Scott E. Denmark on the carbanion-accelerated Claisen rearrangement. He was an NIH postdoctoral fellow in the labs of Paul A. Wender at Stanford University, where he focused on synthetic work involving the neocarzinostatin chromophore. He joined the faculty at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1986 and is now the Norman Rabjohn Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at that institution. Professor Harmata's research interests span a large range of chemistry and include molecular tweezers, [4+3]-cycloadditions, pericyclic reactions of cyclopentadienones and benzothiazine chemistry. He enjoys cooking, reading, stamp collecting, and recently earned his black belt in Taekwondo.

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