# Off To a Great Start:

First Syntheses by Three Untenured Synthetic Organic Chemists



Joseph M. Ready Assistant Professor (2003) University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Postdoctoral Research: John L. Wood (Yale) PhD: Eric N. Jacobsen (Harvard)





Andrew J. Phillips Assistant Professor (2002) University of Colorado Boulder Postdoctoral Research: Peter Wipf (Pittsburgh) PhD: University of Cantebery (New Zealand)

Mohammad Movassaghi Assistant Professor (2003) MIT Postdoctoral Research: Eric N. Jacobsen (Harvard) PhD: Andrew Meyers (Harvard) Enantioselective Total Synthesis of (+) and (-)-Nigellamine A<sub>2</sub> J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2006**, 128, 7428-7429 Bian, J.; VanWingerden, M.; Ready, J. M.



Review of dolabellane diterpenes: Rodriguez, A. D.; Gonzalez, E.; Ramirez, C. Tetrahedron 1998, 54, 11683

Isolated: From Nigella sativa (black cumin); Yoshikawa, M.; et al. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 869

Biological Activity: Potent lipid metabolism-promoting activity

## Development of Pd( $\pi$ -allyl) Cyclization to Form Tetrasubstituted Olefins



# Application of Pd( $\pi$ -allyl) Cyclization to Nigellamine A<sub>2</sub>



Phosphinooxazoline Ligand: Dawson, G. J.; Frost, C. G.; Williams, J. M. J.; Coote, S. J. Tetrahedron Lett. 1993, 34, 3149

# Elaboration of Cyclopenane Core





Radical Alkynylation: Xiang, J.; Fuchs, P. L. Tetrahedron Lett. 1998, 39, 8597.

#### Water-Accelerated Methyliodination of Alkyne



Water Accelerated Methyliodination: Wipf, P; Lim, S. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 1993, 32, 1068

# Completion of the Synthesis of ent-Nigellamine A<sub>2</sub>



Shi Epoxidation: Shi, Y. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2004**, *37*, 488; Wang, Z. -X.; Shi, Y. *J. Org. Chem.* **1998**, *63*, 3099. LiAlH(iBu)<sub>2</sub>tBu: Trost, B. M.; Nichimura, Y.; Yammamoto, K.; McElvain, S. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 1328.

Total Synthesis of (+)-Cyanthiwigin U J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 5334. Pfeiffer, M. W. B.; Phillips, A. J.



(+)-Cyanthiwigin U

Isolated: Jamaican sponge Myrmedioderma styx; Hamann, M. T. et al Tetrahedron, 2002, 58, 7809

No biological activity (but many structurally related compounds are active against various cancer cell line, as well as viruses such as HIV-1 and hepatitis B)

# Retrosynthetic Analysis of Cyanthiwigin U



# Synthesis of ROM/RCM Precursor



## **ROM/RCM to Form Desired Tricycle**



Previous work by Phillips: Minger, T. L.; Phillips, A. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2002**, *43*, 5357. First example of ROM-RCM stradegy in total synthesis: Stille, J. R.; Grubbs, R. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1986**, *108*, 855.

#### Completion of the Total Synthesis of Cyanthiwigin U



Dauben oxidation: Dauben, W. G.; Michno, D. M. J. Org. Chem. 1977, 42, 682.

Total Synthesis and Absolute Stereochemical Assignment of (+) and (-)-Galbulimia Alkaloid 13 *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 8126. Movassaghi, M.; Hunt, D. K.; Tjandra, M.



Isolated from the bark of *Galbulimima belgraveana*: Taylor, W. C. et al. *Aust. J. Chem.* **1967**, *20*, 1705 Biological Activity: Galbulimima Alkaloid 13 has not been tested but Himacine is a potential treatment for Alzheimer's disease McKinney, M. et al. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **1992**, *2*, 797; **1995**, *5*, 61. Previous synthesis of (+/-) Galbulimima Alkaloid 13: Mander, L. N.; McLachlan, M. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2003**, *125*, 2400.



### Synthesis of Diels Alder Precursor



Use of Tl<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>: Hoshino, Y.; Miyaura, N.; Suzuki, A. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1988**, *61*, 3008. Copper Catalyzed amidation: Jiang, L.; Fob, G. E.; Klapars, A.; Buchwald, S. *Org Lett.* **2003**, *5*, 3667.

# Synthesis of Radical Cyclization Precursor



Martin sulfurane: Martin, J. C.; Arhart, R. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, 4327.

## Cyclizations to form Galbulimima Alkaloid 13 Core



First example of vinyl radical cyclizations: Stork, G.; Baine, N. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1982, 104, 2321.

# Completion of the Total Synthesis of Glabulimima Alkaloid 13



