DOI: 10.1002/ejic.201800520

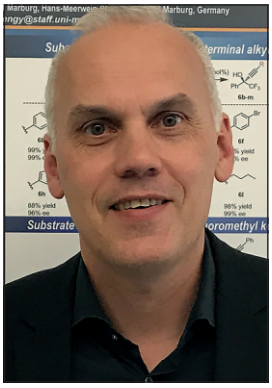


# Author Profile

Find out more about this author's research at https://doi.org/10.1002/ejic.201800450.

## *Eric Meggers*


| | |
|---|---|
| **Date of birth:** | May 10, 1968 |
| **Position:** | Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Marburg, Germany |
| **E-mail:** | meggers@chemie.uni-marburg.de |
| **Homepage:** | http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb15/ag-meggers |
| **ORCID:** | 0000-0002-8851-7623 |
| **Education:** | Diploma in Chemistry, 1995, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Germany<br>PhD, 1999, University of Basel, Switzerland (with B. Giese)<br>Postdoc, 1999–2002, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, USA (with P. G. Schultz) |
| **Awards:** | 2002 Camille and Henry Dreyfus New Faculty Award;<br>2006 Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award;<br>2006–2008 Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow;<br>2009–2010 Novartis Chemistry Lectureship Award;<br>2016 IOCF Yoshida Lectureship |
| **Current research interests:** | Exploiting metal-centered stereochemistry for applications in medicine, chemical biology, and asymmetric catalysis. Currently focus on designing and applying "chiral-at-metal" complexes in asymmetric catalysis including visible-light-induced catalysis. |

Eric Meggers

***In one word, how would you describe your research?*** Illuminating.

***What topics are you working on at the moment?*** My group is currently focused on developing "chiral-at-metal" asymmetric catalysts. These are chiral catalysts in which the assembly of only achiral ligands around a central transition metal generates metal-centered (helical) chirality. In this context, the term "chiral-at-metal" is supposed to indicate that the overall chirality originates exclusively from a stereogenic metal center to distinguish this design from conventional chiral transition metal complexes, which frequently also possess metal-centered chirality but induced by the chiral organic ligand sphere (see Minireview: *Chem. Asian J.* **2017**, *12*, 2335).

***Is your current research mainly curiosity-driven (fundamental) or rather applied?*** Mainly curiosity-driven, but we are also very interested in applications. For example, we recently developed a novel chiral-at-metal ruthenium catalyst (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 4322) without having any particular applications in mind but then fortuitously found that it permits the catalytic enantioselective synthesis of key propargylic alcohol intermediates of the anti-HIV drug evafirenz (*Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2018**, *22*, 103).

***What aspects of your research do you find most exciting?*** Metal-centered chirality.

***What was your most exciting result to date?*** Most exciting are always the most recent discoveries. We are currently excited about our recently developed chiral-at-metal bis-cyclometalated iridium and rhodium complexes, because they uniquely enable intertwining asymmetric catalysis with photochemistry (*Acc. Chem. Res.* **2017**, *50*, 320).

***How do you celebrate a successful paper/ breakthrough?*** Champagne!