

# Reflections on the Power of Organic Synthesis

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4–5 p.m.

Department of Chemistry  
Boston University  
590 Commonwealth Avenue  
Room SCI-107



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The power of total synthesis continues to grow. These capabilities arise from advances in synthetic methodology through scholarly explorations that often have little to do with any issues in total synthesis. Extremely challenging problems remain whose solutions underscore the need for further advances in synthetic methodology. Many of these obstacles spur new ideas and new departures in synthetic strategy. Often, challenging problems standing at the frontier of methodology and strategy also involve target systems of considerable biological and theoretical interest. The pursuit of these fascinating chemical problems also provides an excellent context for the chemist to become proactive in analyzing the possible applications associated with the pursuit of the target system. Furthermore, total synthesis offers a context wherein chemists can assume a leadership position in moderating creative interactions among diverse disciplines.