

***Characterization of Reactive Intermediates
in Organocatalysis – generally accepted
mechanisms revisited***

Prof. Dieter Seebach

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zürich (Switzerland)

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Professional Career



Dieter Seebach was born in Karlsruhe in 1937 and studied Chemistry at the local Technische Hochschule (now KIT), where he received a PhD degree in 1964 with a thesis on small-ring compounds and peroxides (supervisor: R. Criegee). After a two-year stay at Harvard University as a Postdoctoral Fellow (with E. J. Corey) and Lecturer he returned to Karlsruhe for a Habilitation (1969) on S- and Se-stabilized carbanion and carbene derivatives. In 1971 he became Full Professor at the Justus-Liebig University Giessen and in 1977 he moved to ETH Zürich. He held longer-term guest professorships at the University of Wisconsin (Madison), Caltech (Pasadena), and Harvard University. Since 2003 Seebach has been Professor Emeritus at ETH, where he leads a group of postdoctoral co-workers in research mainly on β -peptides and the mechanism of organocatalysis.