

Translating Instructions into Function by Self Assembly

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(ISIS, France)

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Professional career



Nicolas Winssinger was born in Belgium in 1970. He received his B.Sc. in chemistry from Tufts University conducting research in the laboratory of professor M. d'Alarcao. After his bachelor degree, he worked in industry for two years (Sphinx Pharmaceuticals, a division of Eli Lilly) before joining the group of professor K. C. Nicolaou at The Scripps Research Institute for his PhD. There, he had the opportunity to work on a series of natural product with exciting biological activity including heptasaccharide phytoalexin elicitor (HPE), epothilones, sarcodyctins and vancomycin. After his PhD, he remained at Scripps to work in the group of professor P.G. Schultz as an NIH postdoctoral fellow. This was an stimulating time as there was a strong overlap with the research carried out at the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Foundation (GNF). His work involved making sensors based on hyperpolarized xenon which can be linked to a biomolecules via a cryptophane cage. He also initiated his work on small molecule microarray in a fruitful collaboration with Jennifer Harris. In 2002, he moved to the Institut de Science et Ingénierie Supramoléculaire (ISIS), University Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg as an assistant professor and was promoted to full professor in 2005.

His current research is located at the interphase of organic chemistry and biology.

