



## POCC Seminar

September 28, 2006

Prof. Spencer Knapp, Rutgers,  
The State University of New Jersey

Title: *Building Densely Functionalized Molecules*

8:00 p.m.

Carolyn Hoff Lynch Lecture Hall  
University of Pennsylvania

**Spencer Knapp** was born in Baytown, Texas, and raised in Tallmadge, Ohio. As a Fellow of the Ford Foundation Six-Year BA-PhD Program, he received his respective degrees in 1972 and 1975 from Cornell University, both under the mentorship of Jerrold Meinwald. Following an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship with E. J. Corey, he joined the faculty of Rutgers University. His research interests include the synthesis of natural products, enzyme inhibitors, and complex ligands, and the development of new synthetic methods. He has received an NCI Young Investigator Award, an American Cyanamid Faculty Award, and a Hoechst-Celanese Innovative Research Award.

**Abstract** Densely functionalized synthetic targets present synthetic challenges that include reactivity and sterics, relative and absolute stereochemical control, and functional group compatibility and protection. In our studies towards the synthesis of octosyl acid A and pactamycin (shown respectively below), we have confronted these challenges, and are pleased to describe some triumphs and some edifying defeats.

