

**DSM Science & Technology Awards (SOUTH) 2008**

Name	Konrad Tiefenbacher
University	University of Vienna (AU)
Department	Institute of Organic Chemistry
PhD Supervisor	Prof. J. Mulder

Konrad Tiefenbacher has succeeded in developing short new ways of preparing three natural products, namely ovalicin, platensimycin and platencin. These are compounds that have been isolated from natural sources like fungi and bacteria and have attracted tremendous scientific interest because of their biological properties as anti-cancer agents and new antibiotics. Although all of these substances have the potential to become block buster drugs, their chemical and biological behavior has yet to be optimized and fine-tuned. Therefore short and reliable chemical routes to these compounds need to be developed to enable the search for the optimal drug candidate.

Exactly this goal has been achieved by Konrad Tiefenbacher in creating new and very short ways to synthesize ovalicin, platensimycin and platencin. These accomplishments resulted in several publications in a highly ranked journal.