

## IAPSAP/MPSA 2006 Young Investigator Award

The 2006 IAPSAP/MPSA Young Investigator Award, supported by Agilent, Inc., will be given to Dr. Ben G. Davis, Department of Chemistry, Oxford, UK.



**Dr. Davis** is in the Department of Chemistry, Oxford University, UK; his research interests include synthetic carbohydrate chemistry, protein chemistry and glycobiology. His work involves several techniques including novel synthetic methodologies, enzyme kinetics, molecular biology and protein chemistry. Dr. Davis has developed new methods for controlling the reactivity, selectivity and specificity of oligosaccharide formation and the installation of oligosaccharides into proteins. This methodology recently has allowed the synthesis of a new class of glycoconjugates, which can mimic natural glycoproteins, and of other mimics of post-translational modification. Moreover, he has identified and modified proteases and carbohydrate-processing enzymes that can be used to ligate glycopeptides and saccharides, or to enhance the activity of antibiotics by changing their sugar moieties. His work in the design and synthesis of novel inhibitors of

carbohydrate-processing enzymes represents a new step toward the treatment of various diseases and is at the interface between chemistry and biology.

IAPSAP created the Young Investigator Award in 2000 to recognize promising young investigators who are beginning to advance the fields of protein chemistry, protein structure analysis, or proteomics. The first award was given Dr. Kristian Müller, now in Freiburg, Germany; the 2002 Young Investigator award was presented to Dr. Dorothee Kern, Brandeis University at MPSA2002 in Valencia, Spain; the most recent award, in 2004, was presented to Dr. Niroshan Ramachandran, at the Harvard Institute of Proteomics, Harvard Medical School.