## Development of a Copper-catalyzed Amidation-Base-promoted Cyclization

Sequence for the Synthesis of 2-Aryl- and 2-Vinyl-4-quinolones

By

**Carrie Preston Jones** 

B.A. Chemistry Williams College, 2002

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Signature of Author:	f
g	Department of Chemistry
	Department of Chemisury

June 26, 2007

Certified by:..... Stephen L. Buchwald

Camille Dreyfus Professor of Chemistry Academic Advisor

Accepted by: Robert W. Field

Chairman, Department Committee on Graduate Students

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Submitted to the Department of Chemistry on June 26, 2007 in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Chemistry

ABSTRACT

A direct two-step method for the preparation of 2-aryl- and 2-vinyl-4-quinolones that utilizes a copper-catalyzed amidation of *ortho*-halophenones followed by a base-promoted Camps cyclization of the resulting *N*-(2-keto-aryl)amides is described. With CuI, a diamine ligand, and base as the catalyst system, the amidation reactions proceed in good yields for a range of aryl, heteroaryl, and vinyl amides. The subsequent Camps cyclization efficiently provides the desired 4-quinolones using the conditions that are described.

Thesis Supervisor : Stephen L. Buchwald Title: Camille Dreyfus Professor of Chemistry

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## Preface

Parts of this thesis have been adapted from the following article co-written by the author.

"Sequential Cu-Catalyzed Amidation-Base-mediated Camps Cyclization: A Two-step Synthesis of 2-Aryl-4-quinolones from *ortho*-Halophenones" Jones, C. P.; Anderson, K. W.; Buchwald, S. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *submitted*.

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## I. Introduction

The metal-catalyzed formation of aromatic C-N bonds has become increasingly important in organic synthesis over the past decade.<sup>1</sup> Palladium and copper catalyst systems for crosscoupling aryl halides and nitrogen nucleophiles have recently found application in the synthesis of nitrogen-containing heterocycles. Several efficient methods have been developed in which a sequential metal-catalyzed C-N bond-forming/cyclization process yields a heterocycle. For example, Ma has reported a one-pot procedure for synthesizing benzimidazoles in which a Cucatalyzed amination of iodoacetanilides provides an *ortho*-aminoanilide that can undergo a thermal or acid-promoted cyclization to the benzimidazole (Scheme 1, eq. 1).<sup>2</sup> Similarly, Cucatalyzed aminations of haloenynes with hydrazines and amines followed by hydroamidation yield pyrazoles or pyrroles, respectively (Scheme 1, eq. 2).<sup>3</sup> 2-Naphthyridinones and 2quinolones can be prepared using a Pd-catalyzed amidation/intramolecular aldol condensation domino synthesis (Scheme 1, eq. 3).<sup>4</sup> Indoles<sup>5</sup> and pyrroles<sup>6</sup> have also been synthesized *via* similar sequences.



Synthesis of Substituted Pyrroles and Pyrazoles



Synthesis of 2-Quinolones and 2-Naphthyridinones

Scheme 1. Metal-Catalyzed C-N Bond-formation/Cyclization Methods for the Synthesis of Heterocycles.

Nitrogen-containing heterocycles are present in a variety of biologically-active compounds that can be used in a wide range of therapeutic areas.<sup>7</sup> Specifically, 4-quinolone derivatives<sup>8</sup> exhibit antibacterial activity, and several quinolones, such as oxolinic acid and ciprofloxacin, have emerged as potent antibiotics (Figure 1).<sup>7</sup> More recently certain 2-aryl-4-quinolones and compounds containing these structures have been studied as potential treatments for a range of

diseases<sup>9</sup> as they exhibit antimitotic,<sup>10</sup> antiplatelet,<sup>9b</sup> and antiviral<sup>9f,g,i</sup> activities and have positive cardiac effects.<sup>9a</sup>



Figure 1. Structures of 4-Quinolones with Antibiotic Activity.

Multiple methods have been reported for the synthesis of 2-aryl-4-quinolones<sup>8a</sup> including two classical approaches, the Conrad-Limpach and Niementowski reactions.<sup>11</sup> The Conrad-Limpach synthesis involves the condensation of a  $\beta$ -ketoester with an aniline followed by a high temperature thermal cyclization (Scheme 2, eq. 1).<sup>11a</sup> Modifications of the method have incorporated the use of  $\beta$ -ketoamides and have succeeded in lowering the temperature of the cyclization by employing polyphosphoric acid (PPA) (Scheme 2, eq. 2).<sup>9f,12</sup> Recently several groups have reported milder conditions in which Eaton's reagent (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/MeSO<sub>3</sub>H) is used for the cyclization to 2- or 3-carboxy-4-quinolones at temperatures below 90 °C (Scheme 2, eq. 3).<sup>13</sup> This new protocol has not been demonstrated for the synthesis of 2-aryl-4-quinolones.

**Conrad-Limpach Reaction** 



Scheme 2. Conrad-Limpach Reaction and Modifications.

The Niementowski reaction employs the condensation of anthranilic acid with a ketone or an aldehyde for the synthesis of 4-quinolones (Scheme 3, eq. 1).<sup>11b</sup> Initially when acetophenone was used in the reaction with anthranilic acid, only a 3-5% yield of the 2-phenyl-4-quinolone was obtained. The yield was improved to 84% by using the diethyl acetal of acetophenone as the starting material at high temperature (Scheme 3, eq. 2).<sup>14</sup> Even with this improvement, the temperatures employed in the reaction were still very high. Addressing these harsh reaction conditions, a new modification of the Niementowski synthesis was recently developed in which anthranilic acid was converted *in situ* to an iminoketene that cyclized *via* a  $[4\pi + 2\pi]$  cycloaddition with a ketone to yield the desired 4-quinolones (Scheme 3, eq. 3).<sup>15</sup> However, this synthetic route requires anthranilic acid derivatives that can withstand reaction with thionyl chloride. Less traditional syntheses of these compounds<sup>16</sup> make use of transition metals,

Niementowski Reaction



Scheme 3. Niementowski Reaction and Modifications.

including palladium-catalyzed carbonylation,<sup>17</sup> titanium-mediated reductive coupling,<sup>18</sup> and ruthenium-catalyzed reduction reactions (Scheme 4).<sup>19</sup>

Palladium-catalyzed Carbonylative Coupling/Cyclization



Scheme 4. Metal-promoted Syntheses of 4-Quinolones.

The base-promoted cyclization of N-(keto-aryl)amides (the Camps cyclization)<sup>20</sup> has seen widespread utilization for the synthesis of quinolones (Scheme 5).<sup>9c,f,i,10b-f,21</sup> Camps'



Scheme 5. Camps Quinolone Synthesis.

intramolecular aldol condensation was used in the scalable synthesis of BILN 2061, a drug candidate for the treatment of Hepatitis C Virus (Scheme 6, eq. 1),<sup>9i</sup> as well as in the preparation of the indole-substituted 4-quinolone target for SAR studies aimed at developing potent  $5\alpha$ -reductase inhibitors (Scheme 6, eq. 2).<sup>9c</sup> Several different bases and solvents have been employed in the Camps method for cyclizing *N*-(keto-aryl)amides and recently a microwave protocol was reported for the transformation.<sup>21d</sup>



Scheme 6. Pharmaceutical Applications of the Camps Quinolone Synthesis.

Crucial to the utility of the Camps cyclization is the ability to access the *N*-(keto-aryl)amide starting materials. Known methods for the syntheses of these Camps precursors comprise condensations of *o*-aminoacetophenones and carboxylic acids<sup>9</sup><sup>c</sup> or acid chlorides (Scheme 7, eq. 1), <sup>9h,10b-e,21b,22</sup> synthesis and subsequent opening of a benzoxazinone with the dianion of an *N*-

substituted acetamide (Scheme 7, eq. 2),<sup>20b,21a</sup> or Friedel-Crafts acylations of anilides, which often result in mixtures of products (Scheme 7, eq. 3 and 4).<sup>9i,10f,21c</sup>



Friedel-Crafts Acylations for Installing o-Acetyl Groups

Scheme 7. Methods for the Formation of N-(Keto-aryl)amides.

In the next section we describe a simple sequence which employs a copper-catalyzed amidation reaction of 2-halophenones with aryl, heteroaryl, and vinyl amides as a means to access N-(keto-aryl)amides and their subsequent Camps cyclizations to 2-aryl- or 2-vinyl-4-quinolones. We also demonstrate the ability of these same amidation products to undergo McMurry titanium-mediated coupling reactions to form indoles as developed by Fürstner.<sup>18,22,23</sup>

### **II. Results and Discussion**

Considering the established Camps cyclization for the synthesis of 2-aryl-4-quinolones, we envisioned that a cross-coupling reaction could be applied to prepare the *N*-(keto-aryl)amide Camps precursor. Retrosynthetic analysis of the *N*-(keto-aryl)amides suggested that a metal-catalyzed C-N bond-forming amidation approach could be utilized to install the amide portion of the compounds using *ortho*-halophenones as starting materials (Scheme 8). This approach to the *N*-(keto-aryl)amide intermediates would allow easy access to different  $\mathbb{R}^3$  groups by simply using diverse aryl (or vinyl) amides.



Scheme 8. Retrosynthetic Analysis of 2-Substituted-4-quinolones.

Based on the Cu(I)-catalyzed amidation of aryl halides in the presence of 1,2-diamine ligands developed in our group,<sup>24</sup> we focused on the application of this methodology to aryl halides with *ortho*-substituted ketones. As a test case, 2-bromoacetophenone was allowed to react with

benzamide using 10 mol% CuI, 20 mol% ligand, and 2 equivalents of  $K_2CO_3$  in toluene at 110 °C for 24 hours. In a preliminary screen employing ligands L1-L3, the reaction with L1 proceeded in the highest yield (Table 1, entry 1). We observed that 2-hydroxyacetophenone was generated from the reaction of 2-bromoacetophenone with traces of water, presumably introduced into the reaction mixture by moisture in the base. The formation of this by-product could be suppressed and the yield of the desired product improved by the use of activated molecular sieves or by a reduction in the reaction temperature to 90 °C (Table 1, entry 4).



Figure 2. Diamine Ligands for Cu-catalyzed Amidation Reactions of Aryl Halides.

Table 1. Ligand Screening for Cu-Catalyzed Amidation with Benzamide.

O benzamide (1.2 equiv) Me 20 mol% ligand, K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (2 equiv) toluene, 24 h H O H								
entry	ligand	Cul (mol%)	temp (°C)	mol. sieves (5Å)	GC conversion <sup>a</sup> (%)	GC yield <sup>a</sup> (%)		
1	L1	10	110	no	98	78		
2	L2	10	110	no	100	54		
3	L3	10	110	no	100	75		
4	L1	10	90	yes	100	94		
5	L1	0	90	yes	3	0		
6	none	ō	90	yes	2	0		
7	none	10	90	yes	76	66		

<sup>a</sup>GC yields and conversions are the average of two or more runs.

In a series of control experiments, we found that the reaction did not proceed in the absence of CuI indicating that the amidation reaction does not follow a simple nucleophilic aromatic substitution mechanism (Table 1, entries 5 and 6).<sup>25</sup> The reaction did however yield product in the absence of ligand (Table 1, entry 7). As reported previously in the Cu-catalyzed synthesis of biaryl ethers, certain electron-withdrawing groups in the *ortho* position of the aryl halide have the ability to coordinate to copper and hasten the Ullmann-type reaction.<sup>26</sup> Presumably, in this amidation reaction the *o*-accelerating acetyl group had the ability to promote the coupling without the diamine ligand present. Nevertheless, the diamine ligand did enhance the rate of the amidation reaction as the ligand-free reaction did not reach completion after 24 hours.

With these reaction conditions in hand, the versatility of the Cu-catalyzed amidation reaction of 2-bromophenones and 2-iodophenones was explored (Table 2). The substrate scope of the coupling reaction encompassed 2-halophenones bearing both electron-withdrawing (8-10) and electron-donating groups (11 and 12). As demonstrated by the use of 2-halopropiophenones, the amidation reaction also tolerated larger ketone substituents than the methyl group (11 and 12). The couplings proceeded with heterocyclic amides, including 2-, 3-, and 4-pyridyl amides as well as 2- and 3-thiophenecarboxamides (3-7, 10, and 12). Both aryl and alkyl vinyl amides could be cross-coupled (13 and 14), and though the cyclic secondary amide pyrrolidinone reacted in good yield (15), acyclic secondary amides were not effective coupling partners.

Though most reactions were conducted using the 2-bromophenones, the low reactivity of picolinamide (5), 2-chlorobenzamide (9), and crotonamide (14) as nucleophiles prompted us to employ the more active 2-iodophenones as substrates for these couplings.<sup>27,28</sup> However, even with the use of the 2-iodophenone, the yields for the syntheses of 9 and 14 were still only moderate. The synthesis of 9 from the 2-iodophenone could be accomplished in a one-pot procedure from the corresponding aryl bromide using a Cu-catalyzed halide exchange reaction<sup>29</sup> followed by the Cu-catalyzed amidation reaction (Scheme 9).



Table 2. Cu-catalyzed Amidation of 2-Halophenones.

<sup>*a*</sup>Isolated yields are the average of two or more runs. <sup>*b*</sup>Heated to 90 °C. <sup>*c*</sup>Without molecular sieves. <sup>*d*</sup>Heated for 42 h with  $K_3PO_4$ . <sup>*e*</sup>Aryl iodide generated *in situ* from aryl bromide. <sup>*f*</sup>With 2 equiv  $K_3PO_4$ . <sup>*s*</sup>With 20 mol% L2. <sup>*b*</sup>With 5 mol% Cul, 10 mol% L1.



Scheme 9. Synthesis of 9 via in situ Formation of 2-Iodo-4-fluoroacetophenone Followed by Cu-catalyzed Amidation Reaction.

Having developed a successful method for the synthesis of N-(2-keto-aryl)amides, we focused on the base-catalyzed Camps cyclization to yield 2-substituted-4-quinolones. The optimal reaction conditions for the cyclization of N-(2-keto-aryl)amide **6** to 4-quinolone **21** were found to involve the use of 3-3.5 equivalents of NaOH in dioxane at 110 °C. The conditions proved to be generally applicable to a wide range of N-(2-keto-aryl)amides providing the appropriate 2substituted-4-quinolones in good to excellent yields (Table 3). The cyclization method was also effective for the syntheses of more highly substituted quinolones **26** and **27**. Notably, when submitted to the reaction conditions, the pyrrolidinone-coupled substrate **15** provided a more complex tricyclic pyrrolo-quinolone ring system (**29**).

The workup of the 4-quinolone compounds was particularly facile as, with the exception of **29**, all the compounds shown in Table 3 could be isolated in pure form without the need to employ column chromatography; after initial concentration of the organic reaction mixture, the resulting residue was dissolved in water, and the desired products precipitated upon neutralization.



 Table 3. Base-catalyzed Camps Cyclization to 2-Substituted-4-quinolones.

<sup>*a*</sup>Isolated yields are the average of two or more runs. <sup>*b*</sup>Heated to 90 °C.

Compound 14 has the ability to cyclize to either 2-vinyl-4-quinolone (30) or 4-methyl-3-vinyl-2-quinolone (31) depending on the nature of the base utilized (Scheme 10). With NaOH, deprotonation occurred at the  $\alpha$  position of the ketone followed by the intramolecular aldol condensation. However, the use of a weaker base (Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) afforded 31 as the major product *via*  $\gamma$ -deprotonation of the amide. In both cases, traces of the other isomer were produced, which could be readily separated by column chromatography on silica gel. Similarly, as Camps observed,<sup>20a</sup> substrates with accessible protons at the  $\alpha$  position of the amide yield a mixture of 4- and 2-quinolones rendering this method unsuitable for use with alkyl amides for the selective preparation of 2-alkyl-4-quinolones.<sup>30</sup> Unfortunately, the base-dependent selectivity observed for the synthesis of 30 and 31 was not seen for alkyl amides.



Scheme 10. Base-promoted Cyclizations to Synthesize 30 and 31

Finally, the Cu-catalyzed amidation products in Table 2 were submitted to Fürstner's "instant" TiCl<sub>3</sub>/Zn powder conditions<sup>18</sup> for the McMurry Ti-promoted coupling reaction to prepare 2- and 3-substituted indoles (Table 4). The yield was low when the obtained indole contained alkyl substituents in both the 2- and 3-positions (**37**).





<sup>a</sup>Isolated yields are the average of two or more runs.

In conclusion, we have demonstrated a new two-step synthesis of 2-aryl- and 2-vinyl-4quinolones. The Cu-catalyzed amidation reaction of 2-halophenones offers access to N-(2-ketoaryl)amides that readily undergo base-promoted Camps cyclization to provide the desired 4quinolones. We have also shown the accessibility of 2- and 3-substituted indoles from the N-(2keto-aryl)amides via Ti-mediated reductive coupling. These sequential methods have potential for application in the synthesis of substituted nitrogen-containing heterocycles.

### **III. Experimental Section**

General Considerations. All reactions were carried out in oven-dried resealable test tubes or Schlenk tubes under an atmosphere of argon. Potassium carbonate (Mallinckrodt or Aldrich), potassium phosphate (Riedel-de-Haën), and cesium carbonate (Chemetall) bases were stored in bulk in a glove box. Quantities of approximately 5 grams were removed from the glove box and stored in a bench-top desiccator. Sodium hydroxide pellets were crushed using a mortar and pestle and stored in the bench-top desiccator. CuI was obtained from Strem Chemicals (99.9% purity). TiCl<sub>3</sub> (99.999% purity) and Zn nanosize activated powder were both purchased from Aldrich and stored and weighed in the glove box. All three diamine ligands (L1, L2, L3) were obtained from Aldrich and stored in a bench-top desiccator. Amides and aryl halides were obtained from commercial sources (Aldrich, TCI, Avocado, Acros, Alfa Aesar) and used without further purification, except for 2-bromo-5-methoxypropiophenone, which was synthesized from commercially available starting materials as described in the Supporting Information. Toluene was obtained from J. T. Baker in CYCLE-TAINER kegs which were purged with argon for two hours and subsequently passed through two columns of neutral alumina and copper(II) oxide under a pressure of argon for further purification. Anhydrous 1,4-dioxane and DME were purchased from Aldrich in SureSeal<sup>®</sup> bottles. Molecular sieves (5Å) were obtained as a powder from Acros and were activated in bulk via flame-drying under vacuum. Silica column chromatography was performed using a Biotage SP4 Flash Purification System on KP-Sil silica cartridges.

Compounds were characterized using <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, melting point, IR (KBr plate) and, in certain cases, elemental analysis. (Copies of <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra are provided in the Supporting Information for all new compounds and any compounds that did not have adequate elemental analysis results.) Data of known compounds were compared with existing literature characterization data and the references are given. All isolated and GC yields reported in the Results and Discussion are the average of two or more experiments. Elemental Analyses were conducted by Atlantic Microlabs, Inc., Norcross, GA. NMR spectra were obtained using Varian 500 MHz, Bruker Advance 400 MHz, or Varian 300 MHz instruments. The chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) based on the reference of the deuterated solvent. Melting points (uncorrected) were measured using a Mel-Temp II capillary apparatus. GC analysis was performed on an Agilent 6890 instrument with an FID detector and an Agilent 10m x 0.1mm DB-1 capillary column. GC yields and conversions were reported as referenced to dodecane as an internal standard. GC-MS analyses were performed on an Agilent 6850 instrument with an Agilent 5975 inert Mass Selective Detector. IR spectra were measured using a Perkin-Elmer System 2000 FT-IR. Compounds were applied in a thin film on a KBr pellet.

General Procedure A: Amidation of *o*-halophenones. An oven-dried resealable test tube with a Teflon stir bar was charged with amide (1.2 equiv, 0.60 mmol), CuI (10 mol%, 0.05 mmol), base (2 equiv, 1 mmol), and approximately 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves. The test tube was sealed with a rubber septum and evacuated and refilled with Argon through a syringe needle (this sequence was performed three times). Under argon, *o*-halophenone (1.0 equiv, 0.50 mmol), *N*, *N'*-dimethylethylenediamine (L1) (20 mol%, 0.1 mmol), and toluene (1 mL) were each added *via* syringe. The rubber septum was then removed and quickly replaced with a Teflon screw-cap. The test tube was then placed in a preheated oil bath at 110 °C. The reaction was heated with stirring for 24 h and then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was partitioned between EtOAc and water and the organic layer separated. The aqueous

layer was extracted with EtOAc and the organic layer combined, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to remove solvent. The product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with EtOAc and hexane.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-benzamide (1).<sup>31,22</sup> Following General Procedure A, benzamide (76 mg, 0.63 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67 μL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 μL, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). The reaction was heated to 90 °C for 24 h. 1 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 98:2 to 90:10 gradient. 106 mg (88% yield) of a cream-colored solid were obtained. Mp: 99-100 °C (lit mp: 100 °C (ether)).<sup>32</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 12.73 (s, 1H), 9.00 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (m, 2H), 7.98 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.3, 166.1, 141.4, 135.4, 134.8, 132.1, 131.9, 128.9, 127.5, 122.5, 121.9, 120.7, 28.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3222, 3064, 1679, 1650, 1607, 1585, 1450, 1359, 1313, 1247, 1166, 1099, 1073, 1028, 960, 896, 799, 756, 701, 609. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.30; H, 5.48. Found: C, 75.10; H, 5.50.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-3-chlorobenzamide (2). Following General Procedure A, 3chlorobenzamide (93 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67 μL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 μL, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 2 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 98:2 to 90:10 gradient. 112 mg (82% yield) of a white solid were obtained. Mp: 137-139 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 12.75 (s, 1H), 8.95 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.98 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (ddd, J = 7.7, 1.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.55 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.5, 164.7, 141.2, 136.7, 135.5, 135.1, 132.1, 132.0, 130.2, 128.2, 125.3, 122.9, 122.0, 120.8, 28.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3185, 3068, 2920, 1684, 1644, 1608, 1584, 1523, 1452, 1359, 1315, 1258, 1170, 1076, 965, 904, 851, 798, 755, 739, 721, 611. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 65.82; H, 4.42. Found: C, 65.69; H, 4.22.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-isonicotinamide (3).<sup>9h</sup> Following General Procedure A, isonicotinamide (73 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67 µL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 µL, 0.985 mmol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). No molecular sieves were added for the synthesis of the title compound. **3** was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 50:50 gradient. 94 mg (78% yield) of a cream-colored solid were obtained. Mp: 119-120 °C (lit mp: 116-117 °C).<sup>33 1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.91 (s, 1H), 8.96 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* =4.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.24 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.6, 163.9, 150.9, 141.8, 140.7, 135.6, 132.0, 123.3, 122.0, 121.1, 120.8, 28.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3205, 3120, 3029, 1678, 1645, 1611, 1586, 1535, 1449, 1410, 1362, 1317, 1251, 1161, 1062, 963, 836, 756, 692, 677. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.99; H, 5.03. Found: C, 69.96; H, 5.09.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-nicotinamide (4). Following General Procedure A, nicotinamide (73 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67 µL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 µL, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 4 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 90:10 to 50:50 gradient. 100 mg (83% yield) of a cream-colored solid were obtained. Mp: 114-116 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.85 (s, 1H), 9.32 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.96 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.81 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.3, 1.7

Hz, 1H), 8.00 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.48 (ddd, J = 8.0, 4.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.5, 164.2, 152.6, 149.2, 140.9, 135.5, 134.9, 132.0, 130.3, 123.5, 123.0, 121.9, 120.7, 28.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3153, 2919, 1678, 1649, 1610, 1588, 1527, 1454, 1420, 1361, 1316, 1252, 1172, 1112, 1022, 963, 896, 827, 758, 717. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.99; H, 5.03. Found: C, 69.69; H, 5.04.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-picolinamide (5).<sup>34</sup> Following General Procedure A, picolinamide (73 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-iodoacetophenone (71 μL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 μL, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (210 mg, 0.99 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). The reaction was heated for 42 h. **5** was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 70:30 gradient. 85 mg (71% yield) of a pale pink solid were obtained. Mp: 109-112 °C (lit mp: 112-112.5 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 13.53 (s, 1H), 8.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (td, J = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.13 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 202.3, 164.0, 150.5, 148.8, 140.3, 137.5, 134.9, 131.8, 126.5, 123.2, 122.8, 122.8, 121.1, 28.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3207, 1684, 1656, 1576, 1517, 1451, 1430, 1363, 1312, 1251, 1169, 1111, 1042 997, 961, 900, 818, 757, 693, 610. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.99; H, 5.03. Found: C, 69.85; H, 5.18.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-2-thiophenecarboxamide (6).<sup>35</sup> Following General Procedure A, 2thiophenecarboxamide (76 mg, 0.60 mmol,) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67  $\mu$ L, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5  $\mu$ L, 0.985 mmol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol) in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). No molecular sieves were utilized in the synthesis of the title compound. **6** was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 98:2 to 90:10 gradient. 100 mg (82% yield) of a cream-colored solid were obtained. Mp: 131-134 °C (lit mp: 129 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.74 (s, 1H), 8.90 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (m, 2H), 2.74 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.4, 160.7, 141.3, 140.4, 135.4, 132.0, 131.4, 128.8, 128.1, 122.5, 121.5, 120.5, 28.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3208, 3094, 2919, 1661, 1641, 1608, 1587, 1541, 1450, 1354, 1315, 1247, 1166, 1094, 1029, 960, 863, 811, 754, 731, 610. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 63.65; H, 4.52. Found: C, 63.39; H, 4.40.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-3-thiophenecarboxamide (7). Following General Procedure A, 3thiophenecarboxamide (76 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67 µL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 µL, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 7 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 98:2 to 90:10 gradient. 97 mg (79% yield) of a white solid were obtained. Mp: 90-93 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.63 (s, 1H), 8.93 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dd, *J* = 3.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.4, 161.6, 141.5, 138.4, 135.5, 132.0, 129.6, 126.8, 126.5, 122.4, 121.6, 120.6, 28.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3218, 3110, 2924, 1677, 1650, 1607, 1585, 1531, 1451, 1358, 1314, 1254, 1207, 1166, 1102, 1072, 1021, 961, 865, 838, 818, 757, 741, 610. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 63.65; H, 4.52. Found: C, 63.58; H, 4.41.

*N*-(6-Acetyl-3-fluoro-phenyl)-benzamide (8). Following General Procedure A, benzamide (76 mg, 0.63 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromo-4-fluoroacetophenone (109 mg, 0.502 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5  $\mu$ L, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 8 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 90:10 gradient. 101 mg (79% yield) of a white

solid were obtained. Mp: 123-126 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.91 (s, 1H), 8.78 (dd, J = 12.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.94 (dd, J = 8.9, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (m, 3H), 6.81 (m, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 202.0, 166.5 (d,  $J_{CF} = 255$  Hz), 166.2, 144.0 (d,  $J_{CF} = 13$  Hz), 134.4 (d,  $J_{CF} = 11$  Hz), 132.4, 130.2, 129.0, 127.6, 118.5 (d,  $J_{CF} = 3$  Hz), 109.8 (d,  $J_{CF} = 23$  Hz), 107.8 (d,  $J_{CF} = 28$  Hz), 28.6. IR (neat, cm-1): 3175, 1678, 1644, 1602, 1536, 1495, 1361, 1318, 1264, 1250, 1134, 992, 873, 806, 763, 706. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.03; H, 4.70. Found: C, 69.86; H, 4.49.

N-(6-Acetyl-3-fluoro-phenyl)-2-chlorobenzamide (9). An oven-dried reseatable test tube with a Teflon stir bar was charged with CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol) and NaI (150 mg, 1.0 mmol). The test tube was covered with a rubber septum and evacuated and refilled with argon three times through a syringe needle. Under argon, 2-bromo-4-fluoroacetophenone (109 mg, 0.502 mmol), N, N'-dimethylethylenediamine (L1) (10.5 µL, 0.985 mmol), and toluene (1 mL) were each added via syringe. The rubber septum was then removed and quickly replaced with a Teflon screw-cap. The test tube was then placed in a preheated oil bath, at 110 °C. The reaction was heated with stirring for 24 h at which point it was cooled to room temperature. Next, 2chlorobenzamide (93 mg, 0.60 mmol) and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (210 mg, 0.99 mmol) were added quickly to the reaction mixture. The test tube was re-capped and the reaction was heated with stirring in the oil bath at 110 °C. After 24 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was partitioned between ethyl acetate and water and the organic layer was extracted. A second portion of ethyl acetate was used to wash the water layer and was extracted and combined with the first layer. The organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to remove solvent. 9 was purified by column chromatography with a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 90:10 gradient. 97 mg (66% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: 105-108 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-

NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.42 (s, 1H), 8.74 (dd, J = 11.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd, J = 8.9, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (m, 3H), 6.85 (dd, J = 10.0, 7.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 201.6, 166.4 (d,  $J_{CF} = 255$  Hz), 166.2, 143.2 (d,  $J_{CF} = 13$  Hz), 135.8, 134.3 (d,  $J_{CF} = 11$  Hz), 131.8, 131.4, 130.8, 129.4, 127.3, 118.8 (d,  $J_{CF} = 3$  Hz), 110.3 (d,  $J_{CF} = 22$  Hz), 108.1 (d,  $J_{CF} = 28$  Hz), 28.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3113, 1691, 1655, 1592, 1524, 1449, 1359, 1317, 1291, 1248, 1171, 1129, 1104, 1047, 993, 956, 871, 805, 784, 744, 715. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>CIFNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 61.76; H, 3.80. Found: C, 61.55; H, 3.77.

*N*-(6-Acetyl-3-fluoro-phenyl)-nicotinamide (10). Following General Procedure A. nicotinamide (73 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromo-4-fluoroacetophenone (109 mg, 0.502 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5 µL, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 10 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 50:50 gradient. 97 mg (75% yield) of a white solid were obtained. Mp: 165-167 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 13.04 (s, 1H), 9.30 (s, br, 1H), 8.81 (s, br, 1H), 8,74 (dd, J = 11.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 8.9, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (ddd, J = 10.0, 7.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.2, 166.5 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 256 Hz), 164.5, 153.0, 149.2, 143.6 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 13 Hz), 135.0, 134.5 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 11 Hz), 130.0, 123.7, 118.6 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 3 Hz), 110.3 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 23 Hz), 108.0 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 28 Hz), 28.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3116, 2921, 1687, 1651, 1606, 1589, 1532, 1460, 1419, 1368, 1320, 1299, 1278, 1261, 1251, 1169, 1143, 1110, 1025, 994, 960, 882, 863, 824, 811, 779, 765, 718. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 65.11; H, 4.29. Found: C, 65.01; H, 4.10.

*N*-(**4-Methoxy-6-propioyl-phenyl**)-**3-chlorobenzamide** (**11**). Following General Procedure A, 3-chlorobenzamide (93 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromo-5-methoxypropiophenone

(122 mg, 0.502 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5  $\mu$ L, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 11 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 90:10 gradient. 107 mg (68% yield) of a pale yellow solid were obtained. Mp: 112-114 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.43 (s, 1H), 8.85 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.08 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 205.5, 164.2, 154.6, 136.8, 135.1, 134.4, 131.8, 130.1, 128.1, 125.1, 122.9, 122.4, 119.9, 116.1, 55.7, 33.3, 8.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3221, 3087, 2986, 2968, 2947, 2915, 2838, 1668, 1651, 1642, 1615, 1572, 1531, 1454, 1423, 1383, 1320, 1291, 1265, 1252, 1195, 1176, 1050, 973, 836, 817, 730. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub>: C, 64.26; H, 5.08. Found: C, 64.07; H, 5.02.

*N*-(4-Methoxy-6-propioyl-phenyl)-2-thiophenecarboxamide (12). Following General Procedure A, 2-thiophenecarboxamide (76 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromo-5-methoxypropiophenone (122 mg, 0.502 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5  $\mu$ L, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). 12 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 95:5 to 90:10 gradient. 107 mg (74% yield) of a yellow solid were obtained. Mp: 153-155 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  12.45 (s, 1H), 8.81 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 3.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.10 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 205.5, 160.4, 154.4, 140.7, 134.6, 131.0, 128.4, 128.0, 122.5, 122.2, 120.1, 116.0, 55.7, 33.3, 8.5. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3216, 2983, 2911, 2830, 1643, 1616, 1595, 1521, 1420, 1352, 1314, 1287, 1261, 1192, 1175,

1056, 1044, 971, 826, 729. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 62.26; H, 5.23. Found: C, 62.06; H, 5.20.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-cinnamamide (13).<sup>36</sup> Following General Procedure A, cinnamamide (88 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67 μL, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), *rac* trans-1,2-dimethyl-diamino-cyclohexane (L2) (15.8 μL, 0.100 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). The reaction was heated for 25 h. 13 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 98:2 to 90:10 gradient. 106 mg (80% yield) of a cream-colored solid were obtained. Mp: 90-93 °C (lit mp: 89.5-90.5 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 12.06 (s, 1H), 8.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (m, 3H), 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.2, 165.1, 142.4, 141.5, 135.5, 134.8, 132.0, 130.2, 129.1, 128.3, 122.6, 122.3, 121.9, 121.1, 28.9. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3224, 3109, 3061, 3027, 1685, 1652, 1629, 1606, 1585, 1524, 1358, 1332, 1295, 1248, 1162, 975, 855, 757, 679, 614. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.96; H, 5.70. Found: C, 76.89; H, 5.65.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-crotonamide (14). Following General Procedure A, crotonamide (51 mg, 0.60 mmol) was coupled with 2-iodoacetophenone (71  $\mu$ L, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5  $\mu$ L, 0.985 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (210 mg, 0.99 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). The reaction was heated at 110 °C for 24 h. 14 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 98:2 to 90:10 gradient. 73 mg (71% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: 80-83 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.84 (s, 1H), 8.85 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dq, *J* = 15.3, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dq, *J* = 15.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (s,

3H), 1.94 (dd, J = 6.9, 1.7 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 203.0, 165.0, 141.4, 141.3, 135.2, 131.8, 126.9, 122.3, 121.7, 120.8, 28.7, 18.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3208, 2915, 1686, 1643, 1607, 1585, 1523, 1453, 1358, 1331, 1298, 1286, 1250, 1188, 1166, 960, 928, 825, 757, 675. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.92; H, 6.45. Found: C, 71.03; H, 6.45.

**1-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-pyrrolidin-2-one** (15).<sup>37</sup> Following General Procedure A, 2pyrrolidinone (46  $\mu$ L, 0.61 mmol) was coupled with 2-bromoacetophenone (67  $\mu$ L, 0.50 mmol) using CuI (4.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol%), L1 (5.3  $\mu$ L, 0.050 mmol, 10 mol%), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (140 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 200 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (1 mL). The reaction was heated at 90 °C for 25 h. 15 was purified by column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 50:50 to 0:100 gradient. 87 mg (86% yield) of a white solid were obtained. Mp: 89-91 °C (lit mp: 88-89 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.57 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* =7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.44 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 2.15 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 200.6, 175.0, 136.8, 135.9, 131.9, 128.2, 126.8, 125.9, 50.9, 31.8, 28.6, 18.8. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3361, 2999, 2958, 2902, 1693, 1598, 1575, 1488, 1453, 1402, 1358, 1324, 1257, 1238, 1167, 1146, 1101, 1020, 968, 776, 656. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.92; H, 6.45. Found: C, 70.86; H, 6.52.

General Procedure B: Base-promoted Cyclization to 2-Aryl-4-Quinolones. A resealable oven-dried test tube with Teflon stir bar was charged with N-(keto-aryl)amide (1 equiv) obtained in step one and crushed NaOH (3-3.5 equiv). Anhydrous 1,4-dioxane was added via syringe such that the reaction mixture was 0.1M in concentration. The test tube was then sealed with a Teflon screw-cap and the reaction was placed in a preheated oil bath at 110 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1-2 h and then removed from the oil bath and allowed to cool to room temperature. The reaction mixture was then dissolved in ethanol and transferred to a round

bottom flask in which it was concentrated *in vacuo* to remove solvent. Next, a small amount of water and a large amount of hexane were added to the flask and the flask was sonicated for approximately two minutes. The biphasic mixture was neutralized to pH ~7 with 1M HCl and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solutions. Solid precipitated out of the water layer and the heterogeneous mixture was filtered through a Buchner funnel. The solid powder was rinsed with copious amounts of hexane and minimal water. The solid was collected and transferred to a vial with ethanol and concentrated *in vacuo* to remove residual solvent. In some cases, the hexane rinses during filtration did not completely wash away the alkyl residue and the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR showed contamination. Further purification involved a more extensive hexane wash in which hexane was added to the vial containing the compound and the mixture was sonicated. The solid was allowed to settle, and then the hexane was carefully removed *via* pipette. Hexane was added and removed twice more before the product was dried *in vacuo*.

**2-Phenyl-4-quinolone** (16).<sup>17b</sup> Following General Procedure B, 1 (98 mg, 0.41 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (49 mg, 1.2 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (4.1 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 87 mg (96% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: 247-250 °C (ethanol) (lit mp: 254 °C).<sup>12a</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.26 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (m, 4H), 7.52 (m, 3H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 6.56 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.3, 153.0, 141.5, 135.0, 133.3, 131.6, 129.9, 128.2, 125.7, 125.4, 125.1, 119.4, 108.4. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3067, 2962, 1635, 1594, 1581, 1546, 1502, 1472, 1450, 1431, 1355, 1320, 1255, 1139, 839, 798, 771, 753, 689, 670.

2-(3'-Chlorophenyl)-4-quinolone (17). Following General Procedure B, 2 (107 mg, 0.39 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (47 mg, 1.2 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.9 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 96 mg (96% yield) of a cream-colored

solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.26 (m, 1H), 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.40 (m, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.4, 151.4, 141.6, 137.0, 135.9, 133.5, 131.5, 131.4, 128.3, 126.7, 125.8, 125.6, 125.3, 119.5, 108.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2193, 1604, 1572, 1558, 1503, 1445, 1350, 841, 769, 757, 705.

**2-(4'-Pyridyl)-4-quinolone (18)**.<sup>9h</sup> Following General Procedure B, **3** (63 mg, 0.26 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (31 mg, 0.78 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.6 mL). The reaction was heated for 2 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 52 mg (90% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.71 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 8.27 (dt, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (m, 4H), 7.39 (m, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.1, 150.6, 149.2, 143.2, 141.5, 133.5, 125.7, 125.6, 125.3, 122.8, 119.4, 109.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3066, 2968, 1635, 1591, 1567, 1536, 1506, 1444, 1358, 1259, 1143, 821, 796, 769, 675.

**2-(3'-Pyridyl)-4-quinolone (19)**. Following General Procedure B, **4** (81 mg, 0.34 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (41 mg, 1.0 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.4 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 66 mg (88% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.90 (dd, J = 2.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.68 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (m, 1H), 8.13 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.55 (ddd, J = 8.0, 4.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (m, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.1, 151.5, 149.2, 148.3, 141.4, 136.6, 133.4, 131.5, 125.8, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 119.2, 109.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3090, 2966, 1637, 1602, 1578, 1548, 1509, 1442, 1384, 1356, 1024, 801, 749, 704.

**2-(2'-Pyridyl)-4-quinolone (20)**.<sup>15</sup> Following General Procedure B, **5** (89 mg, 0.37 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (44 mg, 1.1 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.7 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 71 mg (86% yield) of a beige solid were obtained.

Decomposition: 232-234 °C (ethanol). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.77 (ddd, J = 4.8, 1.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (ddd, J = 8.3, 1.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (td, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (ddd, J = 8.5, 1.1, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, J = 7.6, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 181.0, 150.2, 149.8, 147.7, 140.7, 138.7, 133.6, 126.4, 125.9, 125.8, 125.2, 122.3, 119.7, 106.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063, 1627, 1603, 1573, 1516, 1477, 1384, 1355, 1321, 1254, 1138, 1022, 995, 781, 760, 692. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 75.66; H, 4.54. Found: C, 75.45; H, 4.53.

**2-(2'-Thiophenyl)-4-quinolone** (21).<sup>9a</sup> Following General Procedure B, **6** (97 mg, 0.40 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (48 mg, 1.2 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (4.0 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up, filtration, and a hexane wash, 88 mg (97% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C (lit mp: >300 °C).<sup>21d</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.22 (ddd, J = 8.2, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.57 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 179.9, 146.0, 141.1, 136.8, 133.2, 130.0, 129.1, 128.5, 125.6, 125.3, 124.8, 118.9, 107.3. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3058, 2184, 1598, 1557, 1503, 1443, 1347, 1256, 1136, 857, 824, 768, 756, 697.

**2-(3'-Thiophenyl)-4-quinolone** (22). Following General Procedure B, 7 (67 mg, 0.27 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (33 mg, 0.83 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.7 mL). The reaction was heated for 2 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 57 mg (92% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.33 (m, 3H), 6.61 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.7, 147.8, 141.6, 136.2, 133.5, 128.6, 127.2, 126.9, 125.9, 125.7, 125.2,

119.4, 107.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3069, 2926, 1633, 1593, 1552, 1508, 1470, 1440, 1428, 1369, 1350, 1313, 1142, 1022, 830, 757, 694.

**7-Fluoro-2-phenyl-4-quinolone** (23).<sup>97</sup> Following General Procedure B, **8** (76 mg, 0.29 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (35 mg, 0.88 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.9 mL). The reaction was heated for 2 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 63 mg (89% yield) of a cream-colored solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.27 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.52 (m, 3H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (ddd, *J* = 10.7, 8.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 179.8, 166.1 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 252 Hz), 153.6, 143.1 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 13 Hz), 134.9, 131.7, 130.0, 129.0 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 128.2, 122.4 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 114.1 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 108.6, 104.6 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 25 Hz). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3255, 3159, 3117, 3082, 3005, 1641, 1602, 1583, 1542, 1509, 1469, 1425, 1367, 1295, 1253, 1162, 1132, 1092, 869, 840, 816, 771, 744, 696.

**2-(2'-Chlorophenyl)-7-fluoro-4-quinolone (24)**. Following General Procedure B, **9** (73 mg, 0.25 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (30 mg, 0.75 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL). The reaction was heated for 2 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 50 mg (73% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Decomposition: 252-256 °C (ethanol). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.30 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (ddd, *J* = 10.8, 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 179.4, 165.8 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 252 Hz), 150.9, 142.4 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 13 Hz), 134.2, 133.2, 132.1, 131.3, 130.8, 128.9 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 11 Hz), 127.8, 122.2, 114.1 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 111.1, 104.2 (d, *J*<sub>CF</sub> = 25 Hz). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3070, 1642, 1606, 1589, 1551, 1513, 1462, 1259, 1162, 1129, 966, 873, 822, 753, 732.

**7-Fluoro-2-(3'-pyridyl)-4-quinolone (25)**. Following General Procedure B, **10** (85 mg, 0.33 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (40 mg, 1.0 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.3 mL). The reaction was

heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, further purification was needed so a hexane wash was performed. Upon drying, 87 mg (96% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.93 (s, br, 1H), 8.72 (s, br, 1H), 8.29 (dd, J = 9.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (s, br, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 10.7, 8.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 179.4, 166.1 (d,  $J_{CF} = 252$  Hz), 151.7, 150.2, 148.4, 143.5, 136.7, 131.8, 129.0 (d,  $J_{CF} = 10$  Hz), 125.2, 122.5 (d,  $J_{CF} = 1.2$  Hz), 114.4 (d,  $J_{CF} = 24$  Hz), 109.2, 104.8 (d,  $J_{CF} = 25$  Hz). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3079, 2921, 2306, 2266, 1636, 1605, 1579, 1568, 1543, 1515, 1467, 1427, 1259, 1213, 1090, 852, 805, 703.

**2-(3'-Chlorophenyl)-6-methoxy-3-methyl-4-quinolone** (26). Following General Procedure B, 11 (66 mg, 0.21 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (29 mg, 0.73 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.1 mL). The reaction was heated for 2 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 57 mg (91% yield) of a beige crystalline solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.67 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (m, 4H), 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 178.9, 157.5, 148.1, 137.8, 135.4, 135.4, 131.0, 130.5, 129.7, 128.2, 125.3, 124.4, 120.6, 115.9, 104.3, 56.1, 12.8. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3078, 2957, 1582, 1544, 1501, 1380, 1294, 1229, 1190, 1158, 1097, 1032, 848, 812, 768, 736, 714. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>CINO<sub>2</sub>: C, 68.12; H, 4.71. Found: C, 68.08; H, 4.73.

6-Methoxy-3-methyl-2-(2'-thiophenyl)-4-quinolone (27). Following General Procedure B, 12 (84 mg, 0.29 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (41 mg, 1.0 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.9 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After work-up and filtration, 73 mg (92% yield) of a pale yellow solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.65 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 178.9, 157.8, 143.2, 136.1, 135.7, 130.7, 129.4, 128.4, 125.5, 124.6, 120.8, 117.2, 104.4, 56.1, 13.1. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2951, 1589, 1541, 1488, 1439, 1375, 1256, 1228, 1161, 1026, 850, 822.7, 768, 708, 692. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 66.40; H, 4.83. Found (Recrystallized from CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD): C, 66.18; H, 4.74.

**2-Styryl-4-quinolone** (**28**).<sup>38</sup> Following General Procedure B, **13** (101 mg, 0.38 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (46 mg, 1.2 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane, (3.8 mL). The reaction was heated for 3 h at 90 °C. After work-up and filtration, 77 mg (**8**2% yield) of an orange-yellow solid were obtained. Mp: >260 °C (lit mp: 279 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.22 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (m, 5H), 7.38 (m, 4H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.0, 149.5, 141.0 137.5, 136.0, 133.1, 130.3, 129.6, 128.1, 125.6, 125.6, 124.8, 121.5, 118.8, 107.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3059, 2040, 1621, 1590, 1547, 1494, 1436, 1246, 1138, 959, 752, 686.

2,3-Dihydro-pyrrolo[1,2-a]quinolin-5(1H)-one (29).<sup>37</sup> Following General Procedure B, 15 (71 mg, 0.35 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (49 mg, 1.2 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.5 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After the reaction was cooled to room temperature, it was transferred into a round bottom flask with ethanol. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and water was added. The solution was neutralized to pH ~7 with 1M HCl and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solutions and then the water was removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was purified by silica column chromatography using a EtOAc-MeOH 100:0 to 95:5 gradient. After the product was collected and concentrated, a hexane wash was performed. 60 mg (93% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: 167-173 °C (lit mp: 173-174°C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.24 (d,

J = 8.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (m, 2H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 4.26 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 3.15 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 179.3, 157.8, 139.1, 133.0, 126.5, 125.8, 124.6, 116.7, 105.0, 51.3, 32.4, 21.4. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3480 (br), 3388 (br), 2964, 2895, 1625, 1599, 1558, 1503, 1473, 1430, 1310, 1267, 1167, 1151, 1073, 1030, 962, 840, 787, 759, 671, 621.

**2-(1'-Propenyi)-4-quinolone (30).**<sup>39</sup> Following General Procedure B, **14** (84 mg, 0.41 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (25 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (4.1 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After the reaction was cooled to room temperature, it was transferred into a round bottom flask with ethanol. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and water was added. The solution was neutralized to pH ~7 with 1M HCl and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solutions and then the water was removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was purified by silica column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 50:50 to 0:100 gradient. After the product was collected and concentrated, a hexane wash was performed. 42 mg (54% yield) of a pale yellow solid were obtained. Decomposition: 240-244 °C (lit decomposition: 210 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.17 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.28 (m, 1H), 6.68 (m, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 6.24 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 1.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.0, 149.6, 140.7, 136.4, 132.8, 125.5, 125.4, 125.2, 124.6, 118.7, 106.1, 19.2. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3061, 2916, 2773, 2189, 2115, 1596, 1549, 1499, 1442, 1354, 1326, 1249, 1138, 961, 835, 756.

4-Methyl-3-vinyl-2-quinolone (31).<sup>40</sup> Following a slight modification of General Procedure B, 14 (94 mg, 0.46 mmol) was cyclized using  $Cs_2CO_3$  (450 mg, 1.4 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (4.6 mL). The reaction was heated for 24 h at 110 °C. After the reaction was cooled to room temperature, it was transferred into a round bottom flask with ethanol. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and water was added. The solution was neutralized to pH ~ 7 with 1M HCl and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solutions and then the water was removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was purified by silica column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 75:25 to 100:0 gradient. After the product was collected and concentrated, a hexane wash was performed. 65 mg (76% yield) of a pale yellow solid were obtained. Decomposition: >150 °C (lit mp: 203-205°C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.73 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.76 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 11.7 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.64 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.3, 145.3, 137.4, 131.2, 130.7, 128.3, 125.7, 123.3, 122.5, 121.7, 116.3, 16.3. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2944, 2845, 1648, 1603, 1551, 1503, 1431, 1380, 1270, 919, 747, 664. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO: C, 77.81; H, 5.99. Found: C: 77.70, H: 5.96.

*N*-(2-Acetyl-phenyl)-*n*-hexanamide (32). Following General Procedure A, hexanamide (138 mg, 1.20 mmol) was coupled with 2-iodoacetophenone (141 mL, 1.00 mmol) using CuI (9.5 mg, 0.050 mmol), L1 (10.5  $\mu$ L, 0.100 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (425 mg, 2.0 mmol), and 400 mg activated 5 Å molecular sieves in anhydrous toluene (2 mL). The title compound was purified by column chromatography using a 5-10% ethyl acetate/hexane gradient. 187 mg (80% yield) of a clear, yellow oil were obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.68 (s, 1H), 8.73 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.03 (m, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.32 (m, 4H), 0.86 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 202.8, 172.7, 141.2, 135.1, 131.7, 122.1, 121.6, 120.6, 38.7, 31.4, 31.4, 28.6, 25.2, 22.4, 22.4, 14.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3253, 2957, 2931, 2861, 1699, 1653, 1607, 1585, 1521, 1451, 1360, 1311, 1298, 1248, 1163, 1092, 1022, 962, 756, 606. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.07; H: 8.21. Found: C, 72.23; H, 8.26.

3-n-Butyl-4-methyl-2-quinolone (33)<sup>41</sup> and 2-n-Pentyl-4-quinolone (34).<sup>42</sup> Following General Procedure B, 32 (82 mg, 0.35 mmol) was cyclized using NaOH (42 mg, 3 equiv.) in 1,4dioxane (3.5 mL). The reaction was heated for 1 h at 110 °C. After the reaction was cooled to room temperature, ethanol was added to dissolve all solid and the reaction mixture was loaded directly onto a Biotage samplet. The samplet was dried with gentle heating. The title compounds were purified by silica column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 75:25 to 0:100 gradient followed by a EtOAc-MeOH 100:0 to 95:5 gradient. 33 eluted faster than 34 under these conditions. After the products were collected and concentrated, hexane washes were performed on both compounds. 17 mg (23% yield) of 33 were obtained as a white solid. Mp: 171-173 °C (lit mp: 170-171 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  11.99 (s, br, 1H), 7.70 (dd. J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.21 (m, 1H), 2.83 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 1.52 (m, 4H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 164.1, 143.2, 137.0, 131.9, 129.3, 124.4, 122.3, 121.3, 116.2, 31.5, 26.9, 23.2, 15.3, 14.3. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2946, 2860, 1654, 1611, 1562, 1503, 1428, 1394, 1274, 1182, 1158, 1097, 1032, 905, 747, 706, 667, 613. 37 mg (49%) yield) of 34 were obtained as a white solid. Mp: 142-145 °C (lit mp: 141-142 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.02 (s, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.1Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 2.72 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.71 (m, 2H), 1.22 (m, 4H), 0.78 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 179.0, 156.0, 141.0, 131.9, 125.2, 123.8, 119.0, 108.2, 34.5, 31.5, 29.1, 22.5, 14.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3250, 3065, 2956, 2930, 2871, 1639, 1595, 1552, 1505, 1472, 1444, 1355, 1322, 1249, 1176, 1138, 1111, 844, 761, 675.

General Procedure C: McMurry-Type Coupling to Form Indoles.<sup>18</sup> In a glove box, TiCl<sub>3</sub> (1.8 mmol, 3.6 equiv.) and Zn powder (3.6 mmol, 7.2 equiv.) were weighed into an oven-dried Schlenk tube with a Teflon-coated stir bar. The Schlenk tube was capped with a rubber septum

and removed from the glove box. Outside of the glove box, the Schlenk tube was evacuated and refilled with Argon twice. While still under a stream of Argon, the rubber septum was removed and the *N*-(keto-aryl)amide (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added quickly to the Schlenk tube. The Schlenk tube was recapped with the septum and evacuated and refilled with Argon three more times. Anhydrous DME was added *via* syringe and the rubber septum was replaced with a Teflon Schlenk cap. The reaction was placed in a preheated oil bath at 90 °C, and the reaction was heated with stirring for 4-28 h, monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through a pad of silica gel with copious amounts of EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the crude material was purified *via* silica gel column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 100:0 to 92:8 gradient.

**3-Methyl-2-phenylindole** (**35**).<sup>22</sup> Following General Procedure C, 1 (119.6 mg, 0.50 mmol) underwent an intramolecular coupling using TiCl<sub>3</sub> (280 mg, 1.8 mmol) and Zn powder (235 mg, 3.6 mmol) in DME (6.0 mL). The reaction was heated for 28 h at 90 °C. After filtration and column chromatography, 71 mg (69% yield) of a pale yellow solid were obtained. Mp: 88-92 °C (lit mp. 90-92 °C). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.03 (s, br, 1H), 7.61 (m, 3H), 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17 (m, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 136.1, 134.3, 133.6, 130.3, 129,1, 128.0, 127.6, 122.6, 119.8, 119.3, 111.0, 108.9, 9.9. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3448, 3421, 3056, 2914, 2862, 1603, 1458, 1445, 1332, 1306, 1235, 1074, 918, 770, 739, 700.

3-Methyl-2-(3'-thiophenyl)-indole (36). Following General Procedure C, 7 (122.7 mg, 0.50 mmol) underwent an intramolecular coupling using TiCl<sub>3</sub> (280 mg, 1.8 mmol) and Zn powder (235 mg, 3.6 mmol) in DME (6.0 mL). The reaction was heated for 16 h at 90 °C. After filtration and column chromatography, 75 mg (70% yield) of a beige solid were obtained. Mp: 92-95 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.77 (s, br, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 4.6, 3.4

Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.13 (m, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 135.7, 134.2, 130.0, 130.0, 126.7, 126.3, 122.4, 121.3, 119.7, 119.0, 110.8, 108.6, 9.87. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3417, 3100, 3056, 2916, 2862, 1461, 1350, 1332, 1291, 1240, 1206, 1153, 1118, 1090, 1025, 1007, 865, 781, 741, 683, 619. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NS: C, 73.20; H, 5.20. Found: C, 73.33; H, 5.30.

**2,3-Dihydro-9-methyl-1H-pyrrolo**[**1,2-a**]**indole** (**37**).<sup>43</sup> Following General Procedure C, **15** (101.6 mg, 0.50 mmol) underwent an intramolecular coupling using TiCl<sub>3</sub> (280 mg, 1.8 mmol) and Zn powder (235 mg, 3.6 mmol) in DME (6.0 mL). The reaction was heated for 4.5 h at 90 °C. After filtration and column chromatography, 29 mg (34% yield) of a colorless oil were obtained. Note: Title compound readily decomposes even at low temperature. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.54 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.14 (m, 2H), 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 141.5, 133.3, 132.7, 120.1, 118.5, 118.5, 109.3, 100.8, 43.7, 28.0, 23.1, 9.2.

**2-Bromo-5-methoxypropiophenone.**<sup>44,45</sup> 2-Bromo-5-methoxybenzoyl chloride (1.91 g, 7.67 mmol) was added to a flame-dried round bottom flask. The flask was covered with a rubber septum and then evacuated and refilled with Argon three times. Anhydrous THF (20 mL) was added *via* syringe and the reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C. Ethyl magnesium bromide (3M in ether) was added drop-wise over approximately 30 minutes. Then the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and was stirred for 20 h at which point saturated ammonium chloride was added. The organic layer was extracted and concentrated. Then it was partitioned between ether and water. The ether layer was extracted and then washed once more with water. The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated to dry. The title compound was purified by silica column chromatography using a hexane-EtOAc 100:0 to 90:10 gradient. 1.37 g (74% yield) of a clear, yellow oil were obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 

7.47 (dd, J = 8.6, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.93 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 204.7, 158.8, 142.6, 134.2, 117.1, 113.6, 108.5, 55.5, 35.9, 8.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3073, 2977, 2939, 2905, 2840, 1705, 1592, 1569, 1467, 1405, 1345, 1290, 1241, 1198, 1175, 1090, 1051, 1027, 967, 874, 846, 816.

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# V. Appendix A: Selected NMR Spectra





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VI. Appendix B: Curriculum Vitae

472 Cambridge St. Apt. 3 Cambridge, MA 02141 Phone: 908-304-4781 E-mail: <u>carriepjones@gmail.com</u>

# **Carrie Preston Jones**

**Objective** An intellectually challenging position which utilizes my creativity, enthusiasm, and analytical and problem-solving skills Education Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA September 2005-present Master of Science/Organic Chemistry (Expected Sept. 2007) • Teaching Award 2006 • MIT Presidential Fellow 2005-2006 • Completed Master's thesis: Development of a Copper-catalyzed Amidation-Base-promoted Cyclization Sequence for the Synthesis of 2-Aryl- and 2-Vinyl-4-quinolones September 1998-June 2002 Williams College, Williamstown, MA **Bachelor of Arts/Chemistry** June 2002 •Highest Honors, Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi •Chemistry GPA: 3.89; Career GPA: 3.78 •Received ACS Connecticut Valley Section 2002 Achievement Award •Received 1999 CRC Press First-Year Chemist Achievement Award •Dean's List for all eight semesters •Completed year-long chemistry research thesis: Metallomesogenic Platinum Complexes with 2,2'-Bipyridyl-Based Ligands: Progress Towards 1-D Conductive Materials Work January 2006-present Buchwald Lab, MIT Experience Lab Research Assistant •Developed a copper-catalyzed method for the synthesis of nitrogen heterocycles: 2-aryl-4quinolones. •Research culminated in written thesis (above) and publication (below) and involved regular presentations at group meetings September 2005-December 2005 MIT, Cambridge, MA **Teaching Assistant** •Held biweekly recitations and office hours for Course 5.13: Organic Chemistry (2<sup>nd</sup> semester), graded problem sets and exams April 2003-July 2005 Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ Chemist •Worked in Medicinal Chemistry department performing organic synthesis of small molecules for drug discovery •Received promotion in Spring 2005 •Presented work at Merck's annual Associate Research Symposium (June 2005) Waynflete School, Portland, ME September 2002-January 2003 Substitute Teacher Inorganic Chemistry Lab, Williams College June 2001-May 2002 Lab Research Assistant •Performed organic syntheses and scale-ups of bipyridyl-based ligands and inorganic syntheses of Pt-coordinated complexes •Research culminated in written thesis (above) and included two oral presentations

**Publications** "Sequential Cu-Catalyzed Amidation-Base-mediated Camps Cyclization: A Two-step Synthesis of 2-Aryl-4-quinolones from *ortho*-Halophenones." Jones, C. P., Anderson, K. W., Buchwald, S. L. Manuscript submitted.

"A Highly Activated Catalyst System for the Heteroarylation of Acetone." Liu, P., Lanza, T. J., Jewell, J. P., Jones, C. P., Hagmann, W. K., Lin, L. S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2003, 44, 8869-8871.

"Mesomorphic Properties of Novel 2,2'-Bipyridines and Their Metal Complexes." Park, L. Y., Fulmer, S. L., Hensley, L. A., Jones, C. P., McGehee, E. A., Scroggins, S. T., Walrod, M. D. Manuscript submitted.

Skills Computer Proficiency: Microsoft Office, ChemDraw, Mac and PC systems; Chemistry Instrumentation: NMR, GC, GC-MS, LC-MS, HPLC, IR, silica chromatography, DSC, polarized optical microscopy, microwave