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László Somsák graduated as a chemist (MSc) in 1978 at the University of Debrecen (UD), Hungary. He obtained his PhD degree in 1983 at the same university under supervision of Professors István Farkas and Rezső Bognár. After postdoctoral stays in with Gérard Descotes (Lyon, France, 1990-91) and with Frieder W. Lichtenthaler (Darmstadt, Germany, as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, 1992-93) he got a tenure as associate professor at the Department of Organic Chemistry of UD. Since 2003 he is a full professor and and since 2015 also head of the above department. Between 2010-17 he was director of the Institute of Chemistry of UD. Since 2006 he serves as the chair of the Working Committee for Carbohydrates of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and as the national representative of Hungary in the European Carbohydrate Organization. He has been member (2009-12) and chair (since 2016) of the Organic Chemistry Panel of the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund. Among others, he was awarded the George Oláh Medal and Prize (1999) and the Géza Zemplén Prize (2013) of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Editorial Board Member of *Carbohydrate Research*, guest editor of *Carbohydrate Research*, *Mini-Reviews in Medicinal Chemistry*, *Molecules*, *Topics in Heterocyclic Chemistry*, co-editor of *Recent Trends in Carbohydrate Chemistry* (Elsevier, book in preparation). Publications: 168 (among them 10 book sections, 12 reviews, 3 patent applications).

Research interests: radical-mediated transformations of carbohydrates; synthesis of C-glycosyl compounds; development of new methods for the preparation of glycals, *exo*-glycals, and anomeric spirocycles; preparation of glycosylidene- and glycosylmethylene carbene as well as glycosyl nitrene precursors and investigation of their reactivity; application of organometallic reagents and cross-coupling methodologies to carbohydrates; design and synthesis of glycoenzyme inhibitors, study of their structure–activity relationships; synthesis of glycomimetics and glycopeptidomimetics.