## Ambiphilic Scaffolds for Cooperative Metal-Ligand Activation of Small Molecules

Matthew T. Whited, Department of Chemistry, Carleton College

Our research focuses on the synthesis of metal complexes with multiple bonds between electropositive main-group elements and late transition metals as "ambiphilic" scaffolds containing adjacent Lewis acidic and Lewis basic sites.

$$E = M - L$$

$$E = Si, B, C$$

$$M = Group 9/10 \text{ metal}$$
HOMO resides on M

We have made progress toward elucidating the coordination chemistry of a new bis(phosphine) dihydrosilyl pincer ligand (right) to use in these complexes. We have also pursued the synthesis of a related N-heterocyclic silyl pincer ligand (below) for comparison of complexes with varying degrees of acidity at Si.