

# QUARTERLY BULLETIN | 2018 Q3

# **Key Takeaways**

- GYA and young academies release Joint Statement in response to Plan S on Open Access of Scientific Output.
- GYA report on publishing models and open science urges diverse and efficient research environment.
- GYA working groups release four new videos.
- GYA Executive Committee meets with stakeholders and partners in Halle (Saale) and Berlin, Germany.

#### **Actions You Can Take**

- Download Plan S Young Academy Joint Statement here.
- Watch four new working group videos here.
- Download report on publishing models and the research ecosystem here.
- Download report on GYA AGM 2018 here.
- Read the GYA Statement on healthy ageing here.

This bulletin provides an overview and highlights the activities of the Global Young Academy (GYA) in the past three months, and complements our more comprehensive monthly newsletters (archive available here). In this issue we spotlight several new publications and videos from our working groups.

### **GYA Output**

#### Joint Statement on Open Access to Scientific Output

Publicly funded scientific output should not be hidden behind paywalls. This is one of the core tenets of the Joint Statement titled 'Opportunities and Challenges for Implementing Plan S – The View of Young Academies', authored by members of the GYA with input from several other European young academies and published in October 2018.

The Joint Statement follows the September 2018 launch of 'Plan S' by cOALition S, an Open Science initiative that includes support by the European Commission and Science Europe, an association of European Research Funding Organisations.

According to Moritz Riede (UK), Immediate Past-Co-Chair of the GYA, 'Plan S is ambiguous, and a wide range of implementations is possible, from scientific dystopia to a system where open access – a central part of open science – can really thrive. We young academies consider becoming engaged paramount, and are willing to contribute to shaping the implementation of Plan S to ensure that it benefits society as a whole.'

From the start, the GYA and European young academies have been involved in the wide stakeholder consultations by Robert-Jan Smits, the Open Access Envoy of the European Commission, and cOAlition S. Koen Vermeir (France) provided this reaction to 'Guidance on the Implementation of Plan S' released on 27 November 2018 by cOAlition S: 'A lot of progress has been made in making Plan S more concrete, and we are happy to have been included in the deliberations, but a lot still needs to be done. The decreasing emphasis on gold open access and the explicit acknowledgement of "the importance of a diversity of models and non-APC based outlets" is very important, in our opinion. But we need to ensure that this diversity of models can flourish and that they receive adequate support.'

The GYA and other young academies look forward to further engaging in the ongoing discussions around the implementation of Plan S.

Authored by GYA members Vermeir and Riede and alumna Sabina Leonelli (UK) on behalf of the GYA, the Joint Statement is based on input from and discussion with the following young academies: Young Academy of Sweden, Hungarian Young Academy Initiative, Young Academy of Scotland, Young Academy Finland, Dutch Young Academy, Israeli Young Academy and the Belgian Young Academy.

You can download the Joint Statement here.



# Report Urges Scholars to Foster Diverse and Efficient Global Research Ecosystem

The GYA released a report in October titled 'Publishing models, assessment, and open science'. The report is the outcome of a workshop that explored the links between scholarly publishing, research evaluation, and open science. A key conclusion of the report is that a new global culture of dialogue and debate is necessary, and the research community should be in the driving seat of change. GYA alumnus Martin Dominik (UK), the lead author of the report, points out that 'The global research ecosystem continues to change. Not assuming an active role means that others will determine the direction'.

The report provides a question framework, a set of core issues, as well as 15 concrete recommendations for action. The GYA hopes that these will encourage interconnected thought between innovators who currently address various aspects of the research ecosystem.

You can download the report here.

### Latin America and the GYA

In addition to attracting approximately equal shares of its members from each world region, one of the strategic aims of the GYA is to act as a facilitator of the growing global network of young academies. This is particularly the case in Latin America, where there is currently just one such organisation – the Young Affiliates of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences. Other NYA initiatives in Latin America include Chile and Columbia.

Another strategic aim is to develop the GYA's capacity-building activities in the region. To this end, prior to the second Latin America and Caribbean Open Science Forum (CILAC) in Panama in October 2018, GYA members and young scholars from around the globe participated in a science leadership workshop co-organised by the GYA and the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP). The workshop addressed science leadership and communication skills in the context of meeting the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Further GYA activities in Latin America include planning a Global State of Young Scientists (GloSYS) Latin America research project. GloSYS projects examine the context in which earlycareer researchers work and the challenges they face around the world. Following an international GloSYS pilot study, the GloSYS ASEAN study was completed in 2016, while a GloSYS Africa research project is currently underway in 14 African countries and the diaspora, and is set to be completed in June 2019. GloSYS Latin America is seeking strategic partners from senior academies, research organisations and other potential stakeholders. For more information, please email GloSYS Project Researcher Fatima Kareem.

#### Four Working Groups Release Videos

Videos spotlighting our Bio2Bio, Women in Science, Global Health, and Young Scientist Ambassador Programme working groups were recently added to our YouTube channel. The videos, which were created by Nerina Finetto from Traces.Dreams, can be viewed in a playlist here.

# GYA Examines the Role of Science in Today's Global World

The GYA's 2019 International Conference for Young Scientists will address the theme 'Re-Enlightenment? Truth, reason and science in a global world,' from 1 to 3 May 2019 in Halle (Saale), Germany.

Interactive panels will examine 'enlightenment' in a broad sense and from a global perspective, with panellists discussing global and local sources of knowledge, different paths to truth, the role of science and scientists in society, as well as the limits of (re)Enlightenment.

With confirmed speakers such as Clifford Siskin (Director of the Re-enlightenment project), Amy Luers (Executive Director of Future Earth), Vladimir Sucha (Director-General of the Joint Research Centre), and Sheila Jasanoff (Pforzheimer Professor of Science and Technology Studies at the Harvard Kennedy School), this year's Conference and AGM is expected to attract more participants than ever before. As a recipient of the Quarterly Bulletin, you are also welcome to attend the conference.

The Annual General Meeting surrounding the conference will celebrate the GYA's 10th year by taking stock of its growth and accomplishments and developing a vision for its future. More information on the conference is available here.

#### GYA Impact Assessment Survey and Evaluation Report

The GYA is currently undergoing an external evaluation by our main funding agency, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). In connection with this process, the GYA Office submitted a self-evaluation report to the evaluators at the end of September (Report; Annex). The report, titled 'The Journey so far: Global Young Academy Developments and Activities', illustrates the impressive development of the GYA in recent years and highlights the breadth of members' engagement and manifold activities.





#### **Executive Committee Update**

## **Executive Committee Meets and Hosts Luminaries in** Halle (Saale) and Berlin

This year's GYA Executive Committee (EC) in-person meeting took place in Halle, Germany from 24 to 27 September 2018. In addition to a team-building workshop, EC members met for two days to discuss and decide on governance issues. Also in attendance were GYA Advisory Board members Ulrike Albrecht (Germany), Linda Nordling (South Africa), and Luiz Davidovich (Brazil), who all provided valuable input and advice.

Fruitful meetings were also held with a number of German Parliamentarians, including Halle (Saale) Representatives Karamba Diaby and Christoph Bernstiel, as well as members of the Committee on Education, Research and Technology Assessment in Berlin.



and Executive Committee member Anina Rich (Australia) at the EC-in-person meeting in Halle (Saale).

# **Three Working Groups in the Spotlight** at World Social Sciences Forum The Bio2Bio working group held a panel discussion at the World Social Science Forum in Tokyo, Japan on 25 September titled 'Biodiversity and biomedicine: sustainability for human health'. This event was organised with support from the National Science and Technology Development Agency of Thailand (with key contributions from GYA alumna Orakanoke Phanraksa and GYA Advisory Board member Narong Sirilertworakul), the InterAcademy Partnership (with a key contribution by Peter McGrath, who also chaired a panel discussion on biosecurity organised by the IAP), as well as members of the Bio2Bio working group.

In other events at the forum, Alexander Kagansky (Russia) delivered a talk on behalf of the Do-It-Yourself Biology working group during the IAP-organised panel titled 'Engaging key stakeholders in addressing biosecurity challenges: Insights from the social sciences'. His discussion highlighted new

# biotechnologies that are causing concern

**GYA at Key Science Policy Meetings** 

in biosecurity discussions such as genome editing and synthetic biology.

Further, during the session titled 'Supporting Refugee and Displaced Scientists - What Role for the International Scientific Community?', the moderator highlighted the key role that the GYA has played in this topic from the very beginning. You can find more information on the GYA's At-Risk Scholars Initiative page.

#### **GYA Members Speak at CILAC**

The second Latin America and Caribbean Open Science Forum (CILAC) took place in Panama from 22 to 24 October 2018. During the forum, six young scientists, five of whom are members of the Do-it-yourself Biology working group, organised a well-received panel session on the 'Do-it-yourself biology movement in Latin America as a driving force of innovation and entrepreneurship'. This Open Science movement attracts more enthusiasts each year, and

success stories include start-up ideas that have been turned into profitable multimillion biotechnology ventures.

In addition to the DIY Biology panel session, GYA members partially or wholly organised the following sessions at CILAC:

- Women in Science and the 2030 Agenda
- Mobilizing the global science community to support the UN SDGs (with a focus on Latin America and the Caribbean)
- Science Diplomacy.

GYA member Teresa Stoepler (USA) presented in the closing plenary to deliver a young scientists' perspective on the SDGs. She emphasised that achieving the SDGs requires transparent, evidence-based policymaking that includes diverse voices such as those of young scholars and scientists from around the world.



# **GYA Capacity Building**

# **Evidence and Policy Summer School**

Members from the Science Advice working group co-organised an Evidence and Policy Summer School together with the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), and the International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) in Laxenburg, Austria, in September 2018.

The summer school, 'The role of population and migration for sustainable development in the European neighbourhood', was attended by early- to mid-career scientists interested in having an impact on policymaking, as well as policymakers interested in how to commission and use research in their daily work.

The event was held under the auspices of the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, with the support of the Austrian Ministry for Education, Science and Research and the Austrian Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

# **Upcoming Events**

- 12-13 March 2019 3rd Women in Science without Borders Conference, Egypt
- 9-11 April 2019 IAP Conference and General Assembly, South Korea
- 29 April to 3 May 2019 GYA Anniversary Conference and Annual General Meeting /Alumni Reunion, Halle, Germany

### **Looking Forward**

# 4th Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies

The 4th Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies (WWMYA) will take place from 31 July to 2 August 2019 in Da Nang, Vietnam, hosted by the Vietnam Young Academy and co-organised by the GYA. Reflecting the global nature of this meeting, the Programme Organising Committee includes members from 12 national young academies and academy initiatives. More information is available here.

# Women in Science without Borders

The third Women in Science without Borders (WISWB) conference will focus on 'Science Diplomacy for Sustainable Development'. GYA alumna Amal Amin (Egypt) continues to act as the Conference Chair, and the GYA Women in Science working group will help organise. The conference will be preceded by a training programme on science diplomacy and science advice from 10 to 11 March 2019.

The WISWB is an initiative to increase cooperation between female and male scientists on the basis of excellence of scientific research where participants of WISWB are expected to present their cuttingedge research. More information is available here.

# About the GYA

The GYA was founded with the vision to provide a voice to young scientists around the world. By empowering early- to mid-career researchers to lead international, interdisciplinary, and intergenerational dialogues, the GYA mobilises talent from six continents for capacity-building, mentoring, engaging in science policy and improving the existing research environment. Members are chosen for their demonstrated excellence in scientific achievement and their commitment to service. Currently, there are 200 GYA members and 216 alumni from 83 countries. The GYA Office is hosted at the German National Academy of Sciences, Leopoldina.

#### **Contact Information**

Dr Beate Wagner, Managing Director Prof Tolu Oni, GYA Co-Chair Dr Connie Nshemereirwe, GYA Co-Chair

