



Global Young Academy

Report from the First Annual General Assembly Meeting

Year in Review and Outlook

Executive Summary:

- The Global Young Academy (GYA) had very successful first year with the following accomplishments.
 - In Berlin, February 2010, planned and founded organization, elected leaders, drafted constitution, started working groups
 - Wrote documentation and built website
 - Assisted with establishing in national young academies from numerous countries
 - Invited first class of full members (32) bringing the total to 132 members from 50 countries.
 - Earned the support from the IAP: Global Network of Science Academies and Volkswagen Foundation (thank you!)
 - Established Advisory Board composed of eminent senior advisors
- This meeting brought together 76 attendees, including 54 members, from 37 countries in a productive forum to plan the next year's activities.
 - Heard inspirational talks about organizations and support for young scientists from senior academy and governmental leaders
 - Voted to adopt draft Constitution and elected new leaders
 - Accepted reports from national young academies around the world
 - Brainstormed possible GYA projects and identified priorities for the GYA
 - Elected new Executive Committee consisting of 11 voting members and 3-non-voting members
- In the 2011-12 year, the GYA plans the following Projects
 - Promote the establishment of National and Regional Young Academies
 - Release statements on (1) the status of Young Scientists around the world, (2) best practices in funding application procedures and (3) brain circulation
 - Develop the Young Scientist Ambassador Program to mobilize scientist between developing and developed countries
 - Plan for engaging young scientists in policy and grand challenges debates
 - Partner ongoing remote education program with the IAP
 - Negotiate discounted research software contracts for researchers from developing countries

- Proposal for a session on “Young Scientists in a Flat World: Building a Global Society” at the AAAS meeting
 - Establish Secretariat in Berlin, Germany
 - Expand Advisory Board
 - Fund-raising to support ongoing and expanding activities
- The newly elected Executive Committee met after the conclusion of the meeting. Decisions and activities for 2011 include:
 - Matters arising from the meeting, conclusion of meeting finances, a meeting report, website upgrade. (completed)
 - Two press releases; one about the general assembly and one following from the resolution from the meeting to show solidarity and support for researchers from Japan and North Africa (completed)
 - Voted on the leaders of working groups and other tasks. Important focus for the year is successful functioning of the working groups under guidance from the EC.
 - Focus to expand advisory board from current three members
 - Aim to have a functioning secretariat within four months
 - Schedule six meetings during the year, via Skype
 - Improve communication by upgrading the website, improving list servers and reporting by groups leaders
 - Plan for regional meetings to increase face time and promote GYA and its activities

Note to the reader: The following report captures the spirit and essence of discussion at the first annual Global Young Academy (GYA) meeting in Berlin, Germany. The reports for each session were prepared by different pairs of scribes, which diversified participation, but also regrettably resulted in somewhat uneven coverage. Nevertheless, the report should give the reader a good overview of the activities, important points raised and decisions taken at the meeting. Further details have been taken up by the executive committee and working groups.

The appendix starts on page 17, and provides short descriptions of the various projects (not in order) planned by the GYA for the 2011-2012 year.

March 20-22, 2011

The German Institute for Economic Research, DIW Berlin

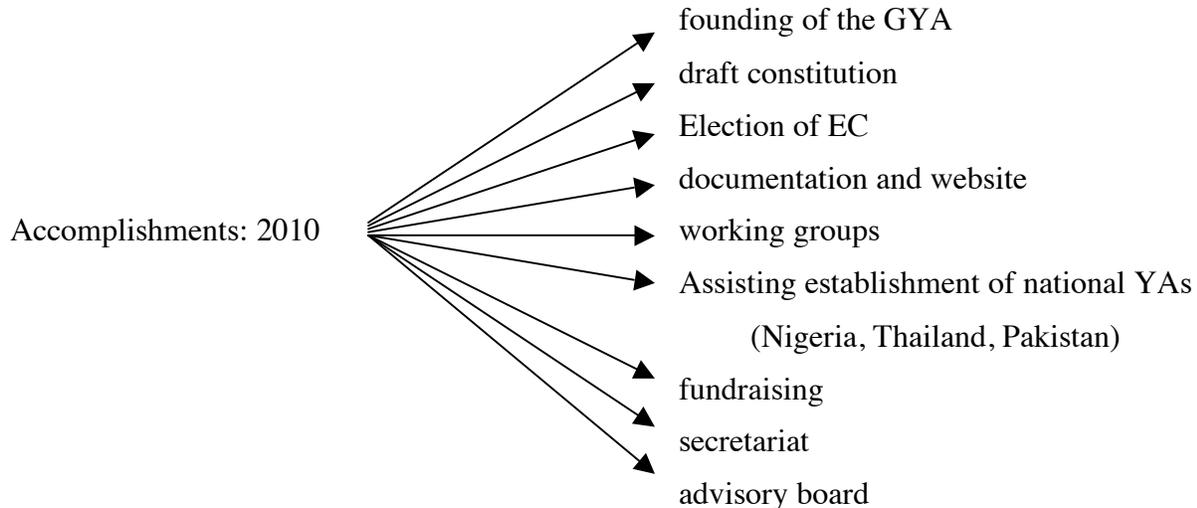
Session 1: Overview and National Young Academy Reports

Sunday, March 20, 2100

Chair: James Tickner

Scribe: Josef Priller

1. Words of welcome by James Tickner
2. Greg Weiss summarizes the accomplishments of the GYA in 2010:



He also mentions that the EC had one face-to-face meeting in Beijing and five EC Skype meetings.

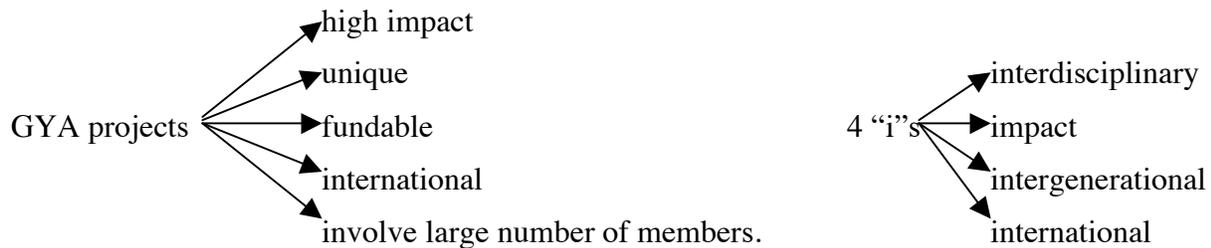
3. Nitsara Karoonuthaisiri urges members to fill in their membership information and send out to James for the information will then be on the website. She also points out that the following working groups have been successfully established: science & society (David & Bernard); early career development; science education; interdisciplinary research.

In 2010, the GYA received > 90 applications for membership, of which 32 were accepted, including new members from previously unrepresented countries like Venezuela, Guatemala, Serbia, Zimbabwe and others. Nitsara thanked the Volkswagen foundation for their financial support and also the Leopoldina, BBAW, and die Junge Akademie (Germany's NYA). She also points out that the GYA now offers seed funding. Finally, an advisory board has been established, including Profs. Bruce Alberts, Howard Alper and Mohamed Hassan.

4. Greg Weiss points out that GYA is now in a transition phase from 'founding' to 'functioning'. He suggests the following principles for the GYAGA meeting: involve everyone, talk clearly and slowly, consider future projects carefully, get as much done as possible.

The biggest barrier to successful projects is **TIME**, not money or resources, according to Greg. Thus, project choice is critical to insure that projects return "time" to the members by providing opportunities to participate in activities that fit their passions and service commitments.

He lays out the following principles for GYA projects:



5. Tilman Brück welcomes the participants to Berlin and explains the role of the DIW – an independent, not-for-profit institute; policy advisor. He stresses the need for young scientists from around the world to come together, since information exchange occurs at an even faster pace today. Scientists are an extremely mobile workforce. Despite this, Nobel prizes and even discoveries are awarded or made at later ages according to DIW research. The ‘Junge Akademie’ is a pre-tenure academy for young German-speaking scientists. It provides a space, where young scientists can think freely, which is a necessity, not a luxury.

5. Winnetou Sosa welcomes the participants to Berlin on behalf of the BBAW. The BBAW will host the secretariat of the GYA. He stresses the necessity to establish the working programs.

6. Rüdiger Klein outlines the role of ALLEA (NL) and the council of Europe. He points to the responsibility of science in society in light of the events in Arab countries and Japan. The Arab world is the immediate neighbor of Europe. As such countries help themselves, young scientists will play an important role. He states that the voice of science is often not heard where it is most needed in political decision-making. Klein would like to add a 5th “i” to Greg’s list: 5th “i”: inter-institutional. He points to the dilemma of IP: ownership versus sharing of knowledge. Senior academies are “not the most dynamic places”, principle of lifetime achievement is different from the “potential” of young academies. He mentions one country, where opposition by the academy of sciences to YA has been overturned by government. He repeatedly invites the GYA to submit draft data to ALLEA, and extends an invitation to participate in an Europe/Asia regional conference.

7. Hans Hilgenkamp describes the Dutch young academy with 50 members within 10 years from PhD, elected for 5-year terms. He mentions some activities: scientific interactions and inter-disciplinarity (time, cognition, uncertainty ...), science policies (regular meetings with ministries, university boards), science and society (YA “on schools” – high schools, and website for 10-14 year-old youths). Hans recommends to get in touch with celebrities to promote GYA, in particular with Shakira. He would like to add a 6th “i” to Greg’s list: initiative.

8. Warinthorn Songkasiri describes the newly founded TYSA in Thailand. Members must be Thai or living in Thailand, less than 40 years old, and membership is for 3 years. TYSA officially filed in June, 2010 with the approval of the Thai Academy of Science and Technology. It has a chair and EC and 3 working groups. TYSA is aiming at networking (national/international) and excellence in research, teaching.

9. Fernando Febres Cordero described the founding of a Venezuelan young academy, which started in 2010 with 4 people and now has 62 members. Since there are only 1,500 scientists in Venezuela overall, the young academy is currently a Working Group for a National Young Academy. Goals are consolidation, constitution, electronic framework for communication, securing own funds, and ultimately create conditions for a NYA.

10. Amal Amin describes the newly founded Egyptian young academy, EYAS. She points out that 60 % of the population are < 30-40 years old and 90 % of Egyptian scientists are trained abroad. EYAS has 30 members based on scientific merit, which are less than 35 years old. There are six councils, including basic science; food, agriculture; water research, management; engineering; medicine. EYAS has working and honorable memberships. There are committees on science and society, education, early career, etc.

11. Aftab Ahmad describes the newly founded Pakistani young academy, NAYS. Pakistan's population is 180 million with 60 % < 25 years old. Pakistan is a Muslim country with 50% illiteracy. A life science forum (SCIFORUM) was founded in 2004, the NAYS in 08/2009. It has a patron and an advisory board. Since Pakistan has no existing, well-functioning science organisations, media or industry, NAYS offers newsletters, bulletins, lecture series, awards, a student motivation program. There are 1,200 full, partial and honorary members, less than 40 years of age.

Discussion: The Nigerian Young Academy is on track since its founding in 2010; the first GA will be held in 2011. The funding of young academies in Egypt and Venezuela has been possible through industry and private sector support. Even national young academies are international in membership.

Session 2: Projects from the Working Groups: Year in Review and Outlook

Sunday, March 20, 2011

Chair: Bernard Slippers

Scribe: Hitomi Takemura

Bernard Slippers introduced background to the establishment of Global Young Academy, and stressed that we focus upon activities of concern to young scientists in order to be effective. He explained that this organization originated from a plan developed at the IAP: Global Network of Science Academies Conference for Young Scientists in collaboration with the World Economic Forum. Second, he emphasized the importance of moving beyond the organization's founding. Third, Slippers introduced some key activities the Global Young Academy worked on last year, such as Principles and Blueprint for Establishment of National Young Academies. The Blueprint includes the justification, establishment and proposed principles of National Young Academies. The Blueprint also asks the InterAcademy Panel on International Issues: Global Network of Science Academies (IAP) to support the recent development to create national academies of young scientists. Nonetheless this document needs to be improved for official approval by the IAP.

The Working Groups from the previous year were mainly divided into five groups: Blueprint for Establishment of National Young Academies; Science and Society (the number of members, 29); Early Career Development (12); Science Education (20) and Interdisciplinary Research (33). Every member is expected to join a working group. Finally, Slippers explained the Proposed Projects for 2010, and noted an additional project of Young Scientist Ambassador Program (YSAP) was adopted from the Tianjin Summer Meeting of Young Scientists 2010. The YSAP program has been efficiently facilitated by new GYA member Steve Miller. The Working Groups were encouraged to further discuss plans to be adopted in the afternoon session of 21st March 2011.

The next speaker, Vinitha Thadhani, described the program of distance learning science education. This program, already underway, provides cutting edge courses delivered via internet to Pakistan from professors, post-doctorals and senior graduate students from the United States and other countries. In September 2010, the Executive Committee of the GYA approved the program and the advertisement was circulated in October 2010. To date, only two members of Global Young Academy responded positively by volunteering to teach or make contacts with remote sites. The IAP website also placed an advertisement. Thadhani said the program is successful so far. Howard Alper from the IAP suggested that we link the program to the IAP science education effort, a suggestion that Vinitha and the Co-Chairs agreed to explore.

Steve Miller gave an account of the YSAP (<http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~miller/YSAP/>). He described the YSAP Charter, which has been written by the YSAP Advisory Committee of seven members among young scientists gathered in the 3rd IAP Conference for Young Scientists in Tianjin. The website of YSAP was also launched with the profiles and contact information of young ambassadors. The YSAP must fund-raise since the solicitations of funding from last year did not produce any tangible result. It is also noted that one of the young ambassadors from South Africa, Caradee Wright, will fly to La Reunion Island to give a lecture on 'Impact of UV Radiation on Human Health' on 24-30 April 2011. Steve Miller, himself, will also be engaged with a young ambassadorship to Bogor, Indonesia, 7-12 July 2011.

Finally, Bernard Slippers reported his plans for improving the Working Group activities of the GYA. For example, the newly established secretariat of Global Young Academy will provide support for fund-raising, organization and other activities. Also, Skype meetings are mandatory for successful projects. He proposed expanding the web-server use, supporting projects from the bottom up, and starting a limited number of clearly focused projects at this General Assembly in Berlin. In addition, he reminded us the importance and rarity of face-to-face meetings.

Supporting young scientists Panel 1

Monday, March 21, 2011

Panelists: Nina Fedoroff (AAAS), Dietrich Nelle (Ministry of Education & Research),
Joerg Hacker (Leopoldina), and Peter Gaehtgens (BBAW)

Chair: Greg Weiss

Scribes: Amal Amin, Jeremy Kerr

This morning session featured science leaders from senior science academies and the German Ministry of Education and Research who discussed their organizations and reflected on strategies the Global Young Academy can use to build its own momentum. The talks provided a broad overview of past activities and a good, working basis for a strong panel discussion. It is clear that the Global Young Academy must identify motivating themes and objectives that will galvanize its membership to continue their leadership activities. Speakers addressed some of the ways to make progress on this critical point in initial presentations and more directly in the panel discussion.

Joerg Hacker provided a concise but informative description of the German Young Academy, which has formed the model for the establishment of other Young Academies and influenced the GYA. The German Young Academy provides a framework within which interdisciplinary discussions between excellent, young scientists can take place and a venue for science-based contributions to society. It also works to improve prospects for academics in various ways (e.g. by addressing themes like Women in Science, junior professors' status, equality in science, and others).

A particularly valuable comment, from Dietrich Nelle, emphasized the need to maintain GYA momentum: what matters is not the reputational benefits of GYA membership but the *actions* its individual members take. These will define the organization. Building on that point, Yael Hanein commented to the panel that establishment of national young academies had met with mixed success – in some countries, national academy membership is an accolade that is not necessarily accompanied by much subsequent activity. Peter Gaehtgens responded that young science leaders in the GYA and within individual countries have a responsibility to go forward if they wish to establish their own national young academies, even in the face of uneven enthusiasm from the established, senior academies. Nina Fedoroff added that the most important objective is to create and maintain relationships between scientists in different countries, developed and developing. She discussed the striking example of the Global Knowledge Initiative as an early and effective bridge-building enterprise by scientists. Dr. Fedoroff also noted that establishing links with established academies is constructive and one means of cementing that sort of engagement would be for young scientists in general, and GYA members in particular, to volunteer to serve on senior academy committees.

All panelists ended on a particularly important topic: how to engage the public on science-relevant issues. Dr. Fedoroff noted that sometimes public opinion solidifies around views that are diametrically opposed to scientific consensus, such as with the genetically modified organism topic. Dr. Nelle noted, with particular insight, that scientists need to engage in dialog with the

public. Communication of priorities and perspectives is a two-way street and it is essential for the scientific community to remember this point. He gave the example of the “science train” that ran through 64 towns in Germany for which the public queued for hours to see the provided displays. Hacker noted that this dialog is, or should become, a permanent process and not be restricted to single issues.

Supporting young scientists Panel 2

Monday, March 21, 2011

Speakers: Howard Alper (InterAcademy Panel), Almut Steinbach (Volkswagen Foundation), Duncan Stewart (National Research Council, Canada), Mahmoud Sakr (Academy for Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt)

Chair: Nitsara Karoonuthaisiri

Scribes: Regina So, Rees Kassen

The GYA faces challenges as it seeks to transition from a ‘foundation’ phase into a functioning institution. The first three of the panelists in this session presented their views on where the GYA stands to make the most impact.

Howard Alper described the IAP (founded in 1993), and its activities, which focus on the goals of working with member academies to advise decision makers and the public, international cooperation, and networking amongst member academies. Then, Dr. Alper made provocative suggestions about current and potential GYA projects as follows.

1. manual of successful outreach programs – useful if subsequent steps are clearly articulated and implemented
2. science policy forums – credibility is crucial; must be non-advocative and education-focused. Advocacy compromises credibility
3. Early career –
 - a. Best practices for effective grant writing – important
 - b. YS brain circulation – also important
4. Science education – significant overlap with IAP’s flagship program; consider working with IAP on this at global level.

Other ways the GYA can make a difference:

1. Research integrity – IAP/IAC may prepare a report which could add value and inform society; YS can act as role models to even younger generation on value system for RI; Note - should GYA work with IAP to produce this report?
2. Grand Challenges – Electricity, Water, Education, Health; GYA consider ways to encourage decision makers to take appropriate steps to remedy these situations; note- no STI issue here; rather, it is about distribution
3. Business University Partnerships – reasons for collaboration (article in Chem Engin Progress by Alper, Weiss, Loo); importance of collaboration with industry to catalyzing research success; drive to interdisciplinarity

For the future of the GYA, Dr. Alper concludes that the GYA must elect a diverse membership to include the creative arts, business, finance, and scientists in industry. Also fundraising should include foundations, corporations, and philanthropy by individuals.

Almut Steinbach from the Volkswagen Foundation, where she is the Head of the International Funding team and focuses on international cooperation, addressed why she is interested in founding of YA and working groups. To the question why the GYA is worthwhile, Dr. Steinbach notes globalization has been renewed/revitalized recently by technology. The speed and impact of change has increased in the last 22-25 yrs. Connecting scientists is not a new idea, but GYA adds one new aspect: young scientists. This is an original idea with great prospect: next 20 yrs will see increasing reliance on knowledge-intensive sectors and globalization also demands increasing connections internationally.

Dr. Steinbach characterizes the world in 2025 as hope vs fear. What can private foundations do? As financially small actors, their approach is unique because they can be autonomous and 'alert' to establish islands of success, foster risky projects, facilitate networking, influence policy and decision makers. Above all, Dr. Steinbach urges not to lose optimism.

Duncan Stewart of the NRC describes how scientists can work at the science-policy interface to result in good public decisions. The fundamental problem is that the two sides are not communicating. Scientists produce reports that are ignored (because they are not relevant). Need for scientists to speak policy language. YS contribute creativity, open-mindedness, passion, energy. But they do not always speak the right language.

Mechanisms to move forward:

1. SciencePages (started 2010)
2. Canadian Science Policy Conference (started 2009)
3. Perimeter Institute – Energy Summit bringing together YS, policy leaders, industry leaders, society leaders.
4. GYA – YS leaders: catalyze action around the world by building and using the network
 - a. WEF, Senior academies; IAP and others....
 - b. Working Groups
 - i. Early career development – inward
 - ii. Interdisciplinary – inward
 - iii. Science education – collaborate
 - iv. Science for society – unique opportunity here; bring scientists and policy makers together;
 - c. Why GYA: young, international, stringent selection process (quality-assured process)
5. Next steps:
 - a. Identify science and policy initiatives in our fields
 - b. Nominate ourselves to participate
 - c. Document experience, successes, and failures
 - d. Teach each other
 - e. GYA as first stop for YS leader
 - f. Catalyze training for YS leaders

Mahmoud Sakr from the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology in Egypt describes the situation there as 17 million students, 100,000 researchers, 50 universities, 362 research centers (gov), some private sector researchers, but 73% in university. The S&T focus of the country include energy, water and environment, food and agriculture, health (Hep C), space and remote sensing. The ST development fund- supports targeted calls for proposals. ST indicators for the country show that the majority of research work in agriculture, with few engineers, few international publications, and 0.2% GDP spent on R&D (low for the region). The aim is to bridge the gap between basic research and applied research/innovation. The ASRT established in 1971 is the main home for Egyptian expertise both in Egypt and the diaspora. Some mechanisms for this include:

- SNG: scientists for the next generation
- EYAS: to be included as a unique academy within the Egyptian STI community by reporting directly to Higher Council of ST
- Research Grants scheme directed at YS

The discussion included suggestions to diversify the GYA membership to include the creative arts, business and finance, and industry-based scientists and to focus policy efforts on issues where young scientists have something unique to contribute. Key to success at the science-policy interface will be: first, to engage with established organizations on issues that affect young scientists, research integrity being a key example; second, to build credibility by taking a non-advocative, education-focused approach; and third, to use the existing global network of young science leaders to facilitate engagement both regionally and internationally. This last point is crucially important, as in some regions around the world, especially in developing countries, youth comprise between 60-75% of the population. Capitalizing on this wealth of energy, creativity, and potential talent is essential to the effort to build a global knowledge society. The GYA is special in this regard because it focuses, uniquely, on young scientists. This is its most valued asset.

Selecting GYA activities for 2011

Monday, March 21, 2011

Chairs: David Hutchinson & Vinitha Thadhani

Scribes: Johan Åkerman, Paul Nampala

This session had the following goals

- Address by Bruce Alberts
- Vote on GYA Constitution
- Breakout session for brain storming, organized by Working Groups (Science Education Science and Society, Early Career Issues, Interdisciplinary Research); each Working Group to plan activities for the next year and also to generate ideas for responding to the situations in Japan, North Africa, and elsewhere
- Prioritization of proposed projects
- Collect candidate nominations

Moved to this session due to technical issues, Bruce Alberts' presentation via DVD lauded the benefits of science and what connections between scientists and policymakers can do for the world. Dr. Alberts answered the question, "Why a Young Academy?" as follows. "One thing I

have seen in the US is the energy and enthusiasm [of young scientists]. I see a lot of idealism, but they do not have much opportunity. [The US National Academies of Sciences] formed the Frontiers of Science program – to get [young scientists] to interact internationally and build connections that would help them as they assume positions of leadership later. The GYA is a place that will host such talent, along the lines of the national young academies in Germany, Netherlands, and now Sudan. From these interactions I know how effective a Young Academy has been in reaching out to the Governments and the Public. I am a big fan of the goal of developing Young Academies,” which will have members termed for a period of 5 yrs. In sum, the energy and ideas of young people are important and they should be empowered to do things that are to be helpful.

Bruce Alberts closed with a quote from Jacob Bronoski, who wrote in the book Science and Human Values (1956), “The society of scientists is simple because it has a directing purpose: to explore the truth. Nevertheless, it has to solve the problem of every society, which is to find a compromise between the individual and the group. It must encourage the single scientist to be independent, and the body of scientists to be tolerant. From these basic conditions, which form the prime values, there follows step by step a range of values: dissent, freedom of thought and speech, justice, honor, human dignity and self respect. Science has humanized our values. Men have asked for freedom, justice and respect precisely as the scientific spirit has spread among them.”

Next, a vote was held on the GYA Constitution with Gregory Weiss presiding. The vote was preceded by about 10 minutes of discussion in which two members expressed concern about voting on the constitution, feeling there were parts missing. Others argued that the new version is a much better document than the current one and improvements to it should be suggested before the next General Assembly. The vote then took place with only members voting: 43 voted for, 1 abstained, 0 voted against.

A long list of potential activities for the next year, including champions for each activity, was presented to the assembly. The attendees then broke into groups focused on each project. Members could work on one or more activities, and define why that activity was of particular importance and relevance to the GYA before presentation to the full Assembly.

After about 15 minutes discussions, the Assembly reconvened. Each champion presented his/her activity with the supporting material defined in each discussion group. The GA decided to merge similar activities to have a slightly shorter list.

To identify priorities for the GYA in the coming year, each attendee was given three votes to distribute among the suggested activities. All votes could go to a single activity, or be distributed according to individual preference. The top eight projects were then selected for next year’s activities.

Based on vote, the priorities for GYA projects in the upcoming year are:

1. Establishment of national and regional young academies
2. YSAP in combination with idea of scientific exchange

3. Software Repository (negotiating discounted rates on research software for scientists from developing countries)
4. Young scientists contributing to policy and grand challenges discussions
5. Best practices for grant giving, a young scientist perspective
6. Status Mobility/Migration of scientists – Statement

The following two projects were added as either ongoing or involving a small number of members:

1. Statement on the status of young scientists around the world
2. Remote education from developed to developing countries (likely in collaboration with the IAP)

Champions and members again broke into activity groups planning main tasks and deliverables for each activity. The GA reconvened and each activity champion presented tasks and deliverables for each project.

The meeting considered and discussed how the priority projects fit in the Working Groups: and noted the following:

- Science and Society; early career development; science education; interdisciplinary research. The voted projects fit the areas but there is considerable overlap.
- Two areas that are probably less covered by the selected projects are interdisciplinary research and the science education. The IAP is looking for partners in science education
- On the issue of how do the selected projects link with what we are already doing? Some of the projects will have to fall-off because they struggled to obtain/receive support.
- If some of the activities are not on the list, they can be pushed forward but the priority list is what is going to define the GYA for the next year.
- The fact that GYA response to Japan and North Africa did not receive much support does not imply that we are not concerned about our colleagues facing such situations. This is something we can do without special project – we can issue a Statement of Support. This statement became the Crisis Response statement, which also aimed to link affected young scientists from Japan and North Africa with young scientists who could host them for temporary sabbaticals.

Next, the champions or leaders of each project were asked to focus discussions on identifying specific goals/deliverables at designated times. Each Group Leader was asked to present a very short report, which is appended here. Each Group convened to define the following aspects of their project.

- Definition of success
- The process for driving the project to meet these goals
- Outline the project process and derive a timeline
- GYA members and others to contribute to the project

The project reports appended here will provide further details of the planned projects.

Plans for the GYA in 2011

Tuesday, March 22nd

Chair: Rees Kassen

Scribes: Hans Hilgenkamp, Stephen A. Miller

Goals for this session

- Summary of plans for the upcoming year
- Plans for the next GYA-GA, AAAS meeting
- Projects get underway

Plans for the next year were presented by Rees Kassen.

-Secretariat. We received funds from the Volkswagen Foundation. Some of these will be applied toward a Secretariat Office. We will target the hiring of a Managing Director and an Administration Assistant. These will be located in the Berlin/Brandenburg Academy of Sciences building in Berlin.

Gregory Weiss announced that there is an application form to obtain startup capital from the GYA for the various working group projects, which will be emailed by Yael Hanein. Greg suggested that we be creative in our pursuit of funding for these projects.

Rees asked for a 2-minute brainstorm of possible funding sources, as follows.

- | | |
|---|---|
| -Leverhulme Trust | -Open Society Institute |
| -Welcome Trust | -Center for International Governance & Innovation |
| -Software companies (Gates) | -Butrous Foundation |
| -Ashoka Foundation | -L'Oreal |
| -Research Corporation (early career issues) | -Ford Foundation |
| -Mercator Foundation | -Howard Hughes |
| -EU Commission | -Asia Foundation |
| -DOD (US Army) | -Paul G. Allen Foundation |
| -TWAS (already) | -Embassies |
| -Cisco | -UNESCO |
| -Google | |
| -Celebrities that have demonstrated (interest in) social engagement | |

General Assembly 2012

-Location and Format

The suggested location is to hold the meeting in Alexandria, Egypt. A suggestion was made to have a plan B in place. Plan B will likely be Berlin. Forty-one votes were cast in favor of Alexandria; zero were opposed; zero abstained.

Yael Hanein reminded us of a GYA goal to have outreach activities while in Egypt.

Tasks were divided up as follows (volunteers in parentheses).

- 1) GYA Wikipedia Page (Liwei/Wibool/Bettina) - completed
- 2) GYA Linked-In group/Twitter feed/ResearchGate (web/PR team)

- 3) Collect Slides (send to Amal Amin) & Photos (to gyaphotos@gmail.com, later uploaded to Flickr/Picasa)
- 4) Design GYA lapel pin/certificate (Wibool Piyawattanametha)
- 5) Meeting Report (scribes and half-page project reports due by Friday 3/25; email gyaga2011@gmail.com)

There was a suggestion for members to include the GYA and its URL in their email signatures to help in the promotion of the GYA.

Other Business

- AAAS Proposal
- Statement from the GYAGA 2011 meeting. Tilman is working on this and offered to create a draft of this.
- A statement on the “Integrity of Science” may be a worthy pursuit. Two people volunteered (Ernesto Lupercio and Greg Weiss) to work on this project.

Rees suggests that the leaders of the projects work with the project teams to develop a Timeline for Completion and a Reporting Plan. For over an hour, the teams met in a break-out format.

Project group leaders reported briefly:

- Rees Kassen detailed his efforts to participate in an upcoming AAAS meeting. The title is “Young Scientists in a Flat World: Building a Global Society”. This is now a project group.
- Sameh Soror reported on the project group about brain-drain from developing countries.
- Abdullah Shams Bin Tariq reported on the software project group.
- Warinthorn Songkasiri reported on the project group for establishing new Young Academies
- Steve Miller reported on the YSAP project group.
- James Tickner reported on the Science Policy project group.
- Yael Hanein reported on the Best Practices in Grant Writing project group.

Tilman Brück presented a GYA 2011 meeting statement tentatively titled “Global Young Academy supports colleagues confronted by current crises”. Jeremy read the letter out loud. It was suggested that this letter is not just a letter of sympathy, but points to specific items of action that GYA members can take. For example, hosting science colleagues who have been displaced because of the various, recent crises. The statement will also include the announcement that the next GYA GA will be held in Alexandria Egypt. A unanimous vote revealed the high degree of support for the draft version of the support letter.

One minute of standing silence was observed as an expression of thought and concern for the people who have suffered during the recent crises around the world. Yoshihiro Tanaka from Japan thanked the assembly for the support.

A call was made for those interested in offering help or positions for displaced Japanese researchers. This effort eventually became the Crisis Response project to match young scientists displaced by the crises in Japan and North Africa with other scientists who could sponsor them for temporary sabbaticals abroad.

Elections

Tuesday, March 22, 2011
Chair: Nitsara Karoonuthaisiri

Elections were held with voting by secret ballot, as prescribed in the GYA Constitution. Each candidate was given the opportunity to make a short campaign speech.

The following two Co-Chairs were elected by the General Assembly.
Bernard Slippers (from a Developing country, South Africa) and Gregory Weiss (from a Developed Country, USA)

The following Executive Committee voting members were elected by the General Assembly.
From Developed countries:

- Tilman Brück (Germany)
- Rees Kassen (Canada)
- David Hutchinson (New Zealand)
- James Tickner (Australia)
- Shoji Komai (Japan)

From Developing countries:

- Amal Amin (Egypt)
- Vinitha Thadhani (Sri Lanka)
- Wibool Piyawattanametha (Thailand)
- Kassymkhan Kapparov (Kazakhstan)

Later, the Executive Committee appointed the following non-voting members.

- Cheikh Khadir (Senegal)
- Gabriela Montenegro (Guatemala)
- Bettina Speckmann (Netherlands)

In addition, the following leadership and committee appointments were made, based on submitted interest surveys. These assignments were confirmed by the previous and current Executive Committees.

Position	Appointment
Secretary (maintains membership database, EC meeting notes, etc.)	Wibool
Treasurer (maintains budget, financial projections, etc.)	David
PR and Web	Bettina, James, Nitsara, Steve, Shoji
Working Group leader	Sameh, Abdullah, Fernando & Ernesto & Warinthorn, Steve & Lynn, Rees, Tilman, Yael

Coordinator of Regional Outreach	Rees
Regional Outreach to governments, academies, NGO's, etc.	John (Africa), Paul (E. Africa), Akindele (W. Africa), Augustine (Africa), Phil (Africa), Chiekh (Africa) Sameh (Europe, Middle East), Maite (Europe) Rees (N. America), Greg (N. America) Gabriela (Latin America), Fernando (Latin and South America), Ernesto (México and Latin America) Wibool (Asia), Aftab (Asia), Hitomi (Asia) Kassym (former Soviet Union)
New membership recruitment and selection coordinator	James
New membership recruitment and selection committee	Javier, Jorge, John, M., Hans, Akindele, Amal, Abdullah, Augustine, Sid, Nitsara, Tilman, Greg, Regina, Vinitha, Manjurul
Editors of the GYA Newsletter	Kassym, Paul, Gabriela

The first General Assembly meeting then adjourned on schedule with the Executive Committee staying behind to make plans to follow-up on the activities of the GYA.

Appendix. Short Summaries of Planned GYA Projects in 2011.

Project: GYA participation in policy formation

Project Leader: Rees Kassen

This project aims to:

1. Increase the participation of young scientists in the process of policy development.
2. Raise policy standards through the inclusion of relevant scientific knowledge.
3. Facilitate international cooperation in both regional and global policy development.

We see two ways in which the GYA can participate in policy formation:

- Respond to calls for submissions for input into ongoing national and international policy discussions. At the national level, the GYA member in the country in question would bring together both local and international expertise to offer scientific input. Contributions to international policy discussions can be achieved through existing organizations such as the IAP, WEF, WHO, and others. The project leader for policy would act as the liaison between the GYA, via the executive committee, and the relevant organization.
- Host a workshop or forum on an issue of regional significance. The forum would involve GYA members and local scientists, but importantly would also include young policy, business and media experts. The forum would produce a statement on the topic, which ideally would be of significant regional interest. One suggestion would be for the workshop to be coordinated with the GYAGA, with the participants meeting for 1-2 days before the General Assembly and reporting back their findings. Consultation with the local NYAs, where they exist, would facilitate planning and ensure relevance.

Goals: One policy submission and one workshop by next GYAGA.

Call for participation: Members with existing experience in this area who are taking part in policy submissions in the next 12 months should contact the project leader.

Project: Promoting National Young Academies (NYAs)

Project Leaders: Fernando Febres Cordero, Warinthorn Songkasiri

Background: In 2010 the GYA took the first steps to support young scientists from around the globe in the creation of National Young Academies. This was done by delivering letters of support to corresponding National Academies and related institutes and by preparing models of Principles and Statutes that could help their formation. Naturally this effort should continue within the GYA as a strong global movement of NYAs resonates with the organization's goals. NYAs and the GYA can collaborate to increase their effectiveness, and have a larger impact on global young scientists issues.

This project aims to:

1. (Coord: Warinthorn Songkasiri) Update the information on the GYA website on established NYAs and on new NYA projects. Gather and publish in the website short reports from each of the NYAs about their experiences, including details of founding, gathering funds, current and future projects (Estimated time 2 months, and continue updates through the year).

- Collection of data month 1-2
- Web update month 3-4
- Reporting plan (group leader reports to the EC every 3 months)

2. (Coords: Amal Amin, Ernesto Lupercio, Bernard Slippers, Manjurul Karim) Improvement and extension of NYA's Principles, Statutes, and the blueprint. Learn from different structures from existing NYAs. Circulate blueprints through IAP and other organizations (Estimated time 3 months).

- Review blueprint / gather suggestions/comments (month 1)
- Revise blueprint (month 1)
- Submit to EC/Final revision (month 2)
- Reporting plan (group leader reports to the EC every 3 months)

3. Establishment of new NYAs (Coord: Fernando Febres Cordero)

The success of GYA depends upon the successful establishment of NYAs around the world.

There are already eight established NYAs. GYA aims to support the establishment of at least 5 new NYAs in the year 2011.

GYA will provide support to NYAs:

- Official letter from GYA/IAP (after blueprint is approved)
- Supporting network from existing NYAs/NYA establishment working group/GYA/IAP
- Reporting plan (group leader reports to the EC every 3 months)

4. (Coord: Carlos Acevedo) Improve the flow of information between members of NYAs and the GYA through electronic networking. Explore the usage of the WAYS framework (Estimated time 4 months).

- Reporting plan (group leader reports to the EC every 3 months)

5. (Coord: Felipe Alvarez) Support Regional Young Academies. This project can address specific issues of young scientists from closely related countries (for example, Latin America and Asia) (Estimated time: 6 months up to 1 year).

- NYA representatives are responsible for creating regional network.

6. (Coords: Fernando Febres Cordero, Vinitha Thadhani) Promoting collaboration between the GYA and NYAs as well as among the NYAs themselves. Support projects across such academies and promote regular (virtual) meetings (Estimated time from 3 months up to 1 year). Our first attempt aims to participate in the remote learning project and create a successful model.

- NYA representatives send out a request to Vinitha (month 7)
- The Remote learning program coordinator distributes information of existing courses to NYA (month 8)
- Launching the course (month 9-12)
- NYA representative find volunteer to teach new courses (month 9-12)
- Funding: project-based

Project: Research Software for Developing Countries

Leader: Abdullah Shams Bin Tariq

Background: In the developed world, academics use for their research specialized software licensed by their institutions. On the contrary, in the developing world the institutions are usually unable to afford to purchase institutional licenses at the full price. With research becoming more and more computational, the academics in developing countries, particularly those early in their career – being more likely to be interested in computational problems – are unable to compete with their peer in the developed world due the lack of access to these specialized software. Scientists returning from higher studies in a developed country often encounter the scenario where lack of software leads to discontinuity of research – thus touching the issue of mobility and migration as well. This leads to on the one hand reliance on piracy – which weakens the academic integrity of a young scientist; and on the other hand lower quality and/or credibility of research based on whatever software is available.

Since these software companies typically have little or no market (due to price and/or piracy) in developing countries – they may be persuaded to agree to provide substantially discounted licenses for developing country institutions as this will create an otherwise nonexistent market for them without any marketing overhead. On the other hand institutions in developing countries will start to get into the habit of allocating funds and paying for research software.

Parallel to the approach of trying to obtain licenses for proprietary software, this initiative will also promote the use of free and open source (FOSS) software alternatives amongst scientists in developing countries. In cases where supplementary modules may allow a FOSS alternative to be acceptable, this program will attempt to connect to the developers' forum of the concerned software to solicit the addition of such modules. The involvement of developing country software professionals in open source initiatives would also be promoted, because in this manner these developing countries would be able to take more responsibility in fulfilling their own needs in a more sustainable manner. The possibility of creating a Directory of FOSS for Research will also be explored as a long-term goal of this project.

Through this proposed initiative, it is hoped that scientists will soon have much improved access to the software used by their peers in developed countries.

Why is GYA taking this up?

- At the moment nobody is doing this!
- Access to scientific software will lead to real change and can positively affect a lot of people
 - As opposed to programs that change little for only a few, we could, for example, target to provide software licenses for all universities in several countries
- Access to scientific software is important for early career scientists – who are more likely to be using computational tools
- It is the early career scientists who face this barrier most significantly when they return home to a developing country after studying, say, for a PhD, in a developed country
- It encourages academic integrity by discouraging piracy – a rampant problem in developing countries

Example Software (not exhaustive)

- SAS (SAS Institute, Cary, North Carolina, USA)
- Eviews (IHS EViews, Irvine, CA, USA)
- EndNote (Thomson Reuters, New York, USA)
- PASW (SPSS)(IBM SPSS North American HQ, Chicago, USA)
- Matlab (MathWorks Corporate HQ, Natick, MA US)
- Scientific Workplace (MacKichan Software, Inc. Poulsbo, WA, USA)
- LabView (National Instruments, Austin, Texas, USA)
- Oxmetrics (Timberlake Consultants, London, UK)
- Mathematica (Wolfram Research, Inc. Champaign, IL USA)
- Maple (MapleSoft, Waterloo, Canada)
- MapInfo (Pitney Bowes Software, Troy, NY, USA)
- Stata (StataCorp LP, College Station, Texas, USA)

GYA volunteers

- Phil Gona – Zimbabwe, *philgona@bu.edu*
- Kassymkhan Kapparov – Kazakhstan, *kassymkhan@gmail.com*
- John Muyonga – Uganda, *muyongaj@agric.mak.ac.ug*
- Peter Ngure – Kenya, *pngure@daystar.ac.ke*
- Augustine Ocloo – Ghana, *aocloo@ug.edu.gh*
- Nagadenahalli Sidappa – India, *sidhunb@gmail.com*
- Bettina Speckmann – Netherlands, *speckman@win.tue.nl*
- Abdullah Shams Bin Tariq – Bangladesh, *asbtariq@ru.ac.bd*

Timeline

- Weeks 1-2
 - Mission Statement: Full team [draft by Abdullah based on this document]
 - Communication with GYA members / Invitation to become a country coordinator [Abdullah]
- Weeks 3-4
 - Identify developing countries: any country where a GYA member is ready to champion it [Kenya, Zimbabwe, Kazakhstan, Uganda, Ghana, Bangladesh and any country that joins in]
 - Webspaces on GYA website [Kassym]
 - Important links to FOSS (free and open source software) for research [Bettina]
- Weeks 5-6
 - Skype meeting of these *Country Coordinators* [Kassym]
- Week 7-12
 - Identification of
 - Software requirements (in a subset of pilot institutions)
 - IT personnel to manage it
 - Type of license required (sites/users) [Country coordinators]
- Month 4-6

- Identify modes and routes of negotiation [Full team]
 - Initiate actual negotiation [to be assigned]
- Month 6
 - Settle the working model [Full team]
 - Review the project thoroughly [Full team]

Project: Bridging the International Scientific Gap: The Global Young Academy's Young Scientist Ambassador Program

Leaders: Lynn Loo and Stephen Miller

Background: The *Young Scientist Ambassador Program* (YSAP) originated as a Legacy Program for the third cohort of InterAcademy Panel Young Scientists (YS) who—by nomination of their respective national academies—attended the 2010 Annual Meeting of the New Champions (AMNC) in Tianjin, China. Of the 55 Young Scientists who attended this meeting, about 20 are now members of the Global Young Academy (GYA). At the March 2011 GYA General Assembly, members voted to adopt the YSAP program in order to pursue Section 2.3 of the GYA Constitution which aspires to “narrow the gap between the developed and developing world by... supporting exchange visits for young scientists that lead to an increase in the scientific skill base of developing countries,” as well as to expand the program’s reach and influence by including both AMNC Young Scientists *and* GYA members.

Program Overview. The GYA Young Scientist Ambassador Program will promote the efforts of AMNC Young Scientists and Global Young Academy members to bridge the international scientific gap by facilitating cultural, scientific, intellectual, or educational interactions. The ambassadorship must be *non-traditional*; that is, interaction must occur between two countries that are at different stages of scientific development, or between two countries that historically have had minimal scientific contact.

Ambassadorship. The ambassadorship may involve one Young Scientist or Global Young Academy member serving as either the host or the guest. Alternatively, the program can be employed to send student ambassadors, under the auspices of an involved Young Scientist or Global Young Academy member. Participants will operate with the title of Global Young Academy Young Scientist Ambassador (GYA-YSA). Possible interactions could include but are not limited to those with primary and secondary school teachers and students, university students, university scientists, as well as researchers at national labs, companies, and governmental institutions. Specifically, the GYA-YSA will promote science education and research, and build successful industry/university and government/university relationships. More generally, the GYA-YSA will forge new ties across international borders.

Governance and Implementation. The founding constituent of this program consists of the original YSAP Advisory Committee and the Science and Society Working Group of the GYA. Requests for funding should be submitted according to the available proposal form and will include a budget. Proposals will be reviewed by a geographically diverse, seven-membered committee selected by AMNC Young Scientists and GYA members, initially consisting of Arsen Arakelyan, Charles O. Esimone, Lynn Loo, Javier M. Moguerza, Maryam M. Matin, Stephen A. Miller, and Marvadeen Singh-Wilmot. Within one month after the completion of the ambassadorship, the GYA-YSA will submit a report detailing their mission, including photographs and/or interactive media. Specific long-lasting outcomes and multi-faceted impacts pertaining to the ambassadorship should be highlighted. This report will be publically available on the program website, which will be maintained to disseminate information about the program and will serve as a portal for researchers and scientists worldwide.

Timeline

- 1) Put out a call to GYA and YS for Ambassadorships that are already funded as well as potential Ambassadorships that may apply for funding. Steve, deadline, April 30th, 2011.
- 2) Update YSAP website and link from the GYA website. Steve, deadline, April 30th, 2011.
- 3) Update the roster on the YSAP website. Steve, deadline, May 31st, 2011.
- 4) Identify which funding agencies might be appropriate for YSAP. Lynn Loo, with help from others.
- 5) Identify a GYA member who will head the funding solicitations. As of now Lynn Loo is the designee for this.
- 6) The first funding solicitation should be sent, via the GYA Executive Committee, by May 31st, 2011.
- 7) Create a purpose statement/powerpoint slide that Ambassadors can display during their visits. April 20th, 2011 (in time for use by Caradee Wright).
- 8) Create an application template for the Ambassadorships. This form will also clarify what should be in the YSAP report, including the tangible, long-lasting (possibly permanent) results of the Ambassadorships, as well as the need for numerous photographs and/or video and multimedia for website posting. Steve, deadline April 30th, 2011.
- 9) Create a report form for Ambassadors to work on before, during, and after their trip. Steve, deadline April 30th, 2011.
- 10) Create a yahoo email account for the YSAP program. April 30th, 2011.
- 11) Investigate a URL domain name for the YSAP program. April 30th, 2011.

Project Group Participants:

Steve, Lynn, Javier, Johan, Hans, Wibool, Nitsara, David, Regina, Anak

Project: Young Scientists Mobility and Migration: action against the brain drain

Leader: Sameh Saror

Background: Large numbers of excellent scientists in developing countries migrate to developed countries. This is due to the lack of suitable research environment at home, yet they are striving to help their countries. However, the expatriate scientists do not know how and where to start.

Our aim is to establish a network between these scientists and their own countries as well as other developing countries. In addition, we will motivate young scientists from developed countries to share in this program.

The ultimate goal is to help improve the scientific environment in developing countries, which will lead to a decrease in the brain drain phenomena.

Actions:

1. Establishment of a database; participants, their expertise, where they can help, and type of help offered.
2. Connecting the network through national young academies and senior academies, universities and research centers in developing countries.

The expertise of expatriate young scientists can provide consultancy expertise in research, education or industry. They can run courses or workshops in developing countries. They may host some graduate students or young scientists at their institutions in developed countries. They can also initiate collaborations with institutions in the developing countries.

Timeline:

Data collection of potential participants and construction of a web-based database to begin immediately and be completed by the end of July.

Project: GYA Report on “The Global State of Young Scientists”

Leader: Tilman Brück

Contributors: Bettina Speckmann, Ido Israelowich, Sameh Soror

Aim: The proposed project aims to compile a report on the state of young scientists around the world, drawing on new and established evidence and insights from relevant researchers, experts, and institutions working in this field. The report will collect the current state of the art, outlining areas of insights and knowledge based on evidence and identifying fields where information is not reliable or missing. The report will inform policy makers and practitioners in national and international agencies, governments and scientific institutions on current trends and policy practices concerning scientists between completion of their PhD (or graduate training more generally) and reaching tenured or long-term research positions with independence and responsibility.

By drawing both on established scientific evidence in this field and by consulting a variety of stakeholders from various countries, the diversity of this sector around the world and the interdependencies between different national and regional science systems will be illuminated. The report will also review different policy options for supporting young scientists around the world, without necessarily advocating specific measures or policies.

Such a report would reflect the increasingly mobile and international careers of young scientists, who work in a profession where knowledge is produced in global competition but also in environments strongly shaped by local and national institutions.

Action:

The project will be coordinated by the Global Young Academy in close cooperation with other national or international scientific institutions. We will draw on the available expertise of the best researchers working on academic labor markets, mobility, migration, tenure systems, research funding, university organization, and other relevant fields in the disciplines of sociology, economics, management studies, international relations, migration research, and others.

The intended output is a policy report which is accessible to experts and lay audiences alike, containing a review of evidence on the state of young scientists and an overview over relevant policies and policy options shaping the career paths of young scientists. In addition, we will present the report to key stakeholders and audiences in various countries around the world to help ignite a debate about supporting international young scientists.

We will seek financial and organization support from fellow scientific institutions and academies to produce a report in partnership and reflecting the diversity of the community that we wish to survey.

Timeline:

First draft in 6-months, final version in one year.