

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- “Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies” launched.
- Young researchers played crucial roles during the World Science Forum 2019.
- The GYA is deeply involved in Open Science and Plan S.
- Save the date I: 2020 AGM and International Conference of Young Scientists ‘Heal the Earth: Sustainable Development Goals in a Changing World’ 10-11 June 2020 in Kolkata, India.
- Save the date II: 2021 AGM and International Conference in Tokyo, Japan, from 16-21 May 2021.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

- Download the “Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies” [here](#).
- Watch the new GYA Working Group on Climate Change YouTube channel [here](#).
- Watch the new Humans of the GYA video [here](#).
- Watch the new Alumni of the Month video [here](#).
- Follow us on social media:
[Facebook: GYA.online](#)
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This bulletin provides an overview and highlights of the activities of the Global Young Academy ([GYA](#)) in the fourth quarter of 2019, as well as upcoming events: the purpose is to help identify and strengthen cooperation with our strategic partners. This bulletin complements our monthly newsletters (archive available [here](#)), which provide more comprehensive details. In this issue we share updates on the World Science Forum - including the launch of the National Young Academies Declaration of Guiding Principles - as well as recent Open Science developments and upcoming strategic events.

Launch of “Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies”

The global network of Young Academies continues to grow, from just a handful in 2014 to currently more than 40 across all global regions. With these increasing numbers, the need for a consensus on core principles and values of Young Academies has become apparent. Coordinated by the GYA, almost 40 young academies from all over the world came together in recent months to develop a set of guiding principles, which resulted in the “Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies.” (For a list of signatories, see page 4.)

The Declaration includes a number of calls to action, including one to young scholars worldwide to establish a Young Academy in countries where none exists. Other calls are targeted at existing Young Academies to continue aligning their actions with the newly-codified core principles, and to “Senior” Science Academies to work with and support their Young Academy counterparts.

The Declaration was launched at the World Science Forum in Budapest, Hungary, on 20 November 2019, with a large number of Young Academy representatives being present. On behalf of the recently-established Hungarian Young Academy, [Gergely Toldi](#) (Hungary) opened the launch session

and thanked the members of the core writing team. GYA Immediate past co-chair [Tolu Oni](#) (UK) then discussed the rationale for drafting the Declaration and described the drafting process over recent months. Tolu closed by reminding everyone that the Declaration is meant to be a living document. As such, it will continue to evolve over coming years with more Young Academies being established, and activities by existing young academies developing as well.

Bringing in the perspective of the Senior Science Academies, Daya Reddy, President of the International Science Council, expressed delight at the path that the Young Academy movement had taken over the past 20 years, noting that Young Academies bring a unique perspective on global challenges to the Science Academy landscape and a degree of optimism which is both welcome and needed.

GYA Executive Committee member [Michael Saliba](#) (Germany) mentioned that 20 years ago when the German Junge Akademie was established, no one knew what would come of the Young Academies, but now we can see that their development is a continuing success story – with more than 40 Young Academies existing the world over, and many more working towards establishment.

GYA members play crucial roles at World Science Forum 2019

The 2019 World Science Forum (WSF) brought together over 1,000 scientists, scholars and policymakers as well as industry and science communicators to discuss ‘Science, Ethics and Responsibility’ in Budapest, Hungary from 20-23 November 2019. At least one early- to mid-career researcher spoke on each of the five plenary sessions at the forum. A photo gallery is located on Flickr [here](#).

The high rate of inclusion of the voice of early-career researchers was facilitated by the GYA, which joined the WSF Steering Committee in February 2019, represented by Co-Chair [Connie Nshemereirwe](#) (Uganda). The selection and nomination of young scientist plenary panelists was coordinated by the GYA, together with the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), the World Association of Young Scientists (WAYS), and the International Consortium of Research Staff Associations (ICoRSA).

Leading up to the WSF, nearly 40 young scientists and scholars from 23 countries participated in a 1.5-day science leadership workshop, co-organised by the GYA, the IAP, and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. This workshop enabled many young scientists to also take part in the WSF. More information [here](#).

The voices of young scientists at the WSF sometimes raised unanticipated issues. For example, during Plenary Session III on “The Ethical Conduct of Science”, GYA Executive Committee member [Michael Saliba](#) spoke about the responsibility of research group leaders to negotiate acceptable prices for research equipment.

Another contribution came from GYA member [Tyrone Grandinson](#) (United States) during Plenary Session I, which explored the question “Are there Ethical Limits to What Science Can Achieve or Should Pursue?” Tyrone stressed that the question cannot actually be answered, as it consists of two different questions - one on the ethical limits of science, and the other about the possible achievements of scientific research.

A young researcher nominated by the Royal Irish Academy, Stephanie Annett, spoke during Plenary Session II on “The Ethics of Science Funding”. Stephanie highlighted the urgent need of transparency for publically-funded R&D on medical drugs, and open access to such research results. She outlined cases in which public funds not only pay for the R&D for medicines, they also pay for the end product - often at high prices that don’t correlate to actual costs.

The WSF Declaration this year extols the responsibility of scientists to communicate science findings to society, and is available [here](#).

The future of Science is Open

Spearheaded by the [Open Science Working Group](#), the GYA had an active 2019 navigating and helping shape the Open Science landscape.

Plan S, launched in September 2018, is one of the most far-reaching and controversial initiatives in Open Science to date. This bold plan aims to make science Open Access on a global scale between 2021 and 2024. A GYA delegation led by Co-Chair [Koen Vermeir](#) (France) and past Co-Chair [Moritz Riede](#) (UK) was invited to give input and help shape Plan S from its inception in early 2018. One of their initiatives, developed together with representatives from European NYAs, was to pitch the idea of a “Plan S Monitor”. The aim of the Monitor is to continuously evaluate the impact of Plan S on the research and publication ecosystem. This is crucial because the impact of major policy changes such as Plan S is hard to predict, and there are fears it may negatively impact early-career researchers around the world. This idea is now coming to fruition with the establishment of a cOAlition S Task Force comprising senior experts and early-career researchers across a breadth of disciplines and countries.

Staying with “Plan S”, Koen was invited to deliver a keynote on its new implementation guidelines at the Open Science Fair 2019 in Porto, Portugal (video [here](#)). In his talk, Koen stressed two key principles of Plan S: that all researchers should be able to publish their work as Open Access (Principle 4), and that support be provided for Open Access infrastructures where necessary (Principle 3).

Another key OS development is that GYA alumna [Sabina Leonelli](#) (UK) has been named a Plan S Ambassador. These Ambassadors act as local points of contact for discussions and advice about Plan S and its implementation. As an Ambassador, Sabina will listen to the concerns of the research community and relay these back to cOAlition S.

Moreover, GYA members presented the perspective of young scientists on Open Science in many meetings around the world. Koen was invited to represent the GYA at policy meetings, including the Open Science Coordination in Europe meeting and the meeting of the Open Science Policy Platform (OSPP) of the European Commission in October in Helsinki. Additionally, [Abel Polese](#) (Estonia) tested a new anti-predatory-journal training in Central Asia and attended an African Open Science Platform workshop in Alexandria, Egypt in September. Further, [Henri Tonnang](#) (Kenya) discussed Open Science for Africa in a workshop organized by UNESCO and the African Union Commission, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in December.

In 2020 we will further facilitate engagement on Open Science issues between National Young Academies.

Save the date I: GYA International Conference of Young Scientists 2020



The GYA's 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and International Conference of Young Scientists 'Heal the Earth: Sustainable Development Goals in a Changing World' will be held in Kolkata, India, 8-12 June 2020.

The AGM and conference will bring together scientists and scholars from six continents to lead evidence-based, interdisciplinary and intergenerational dialogue on the topic 'Heal the Earth: Sustainable Development Goals in a Changing World'.

Read more on the 2020 AGM Conference page [here](#).

Save the date II: GYA AGM 2021

The 2021 GYA AGM will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 16-21 May 2021. The meeting will include an International Conference of Young Scientists.

Humans of the GYA videos highlight members' accomplishments

The Humans of the GYA campaign highlights the work of individual members and showcases the diversity and excellence of GYA membership.

Check out the latest video featuring [Bernardo Urbani](#) (Venezuela) speaking about his work with primates on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Alumni in the spotlight

The Alumni of the Month campaign showcases GYA alumni's time with the GYA and how it has affected their research careers.

The first video features past Co-Chair [Orakanoke Phanraksa](#) (Thailand) speaking about the early days of the GYA and her evolution as a researcher. The video is available on our YouTube channel [here](#).

PS: While you're there, please subscribe to our [YouTube channel!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

World Forum for Women in Science, 10-14 February 2020, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The World Forum for Women in Science – Brazil 2020 (4th International Conference for Women in Science without Borders) will take place 10-14 February 2020 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The conference will be organised by the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, and is a multidisciplinary conference open to both male and female researchers. More information is available on the GYA Events page [here](#).

Next Einstein Forum, 10-13 March 2020, Nairobi, Kenya

The Next Einstein Forum (NEF) is a biennial gathering and the NEF's marquee event. Far from an ordinary science forum, the NEF Global Gatherings position science at the centre of global development efforts. In the presence of political and industry leaders, and with a strong focus on youth and women, the voices of global science leaders' have the opportunity to be heard and to have major impact on Africa's scientific future. Read more [here](#).

Africa Science Leadership Programme, 20-25 March 2020, Pretoria, South Africa

The sixth Africa Science Leadership Programme (ASLP) workshop is planned to be held in Pretoria at the Future Africa campus in March 2020. The programme was launched in June 2015 with a first cohort of 20 fellows. At present, the ASLP has trained over 100 fellows from 19 countries across Africa. The programme is an initiative of the University of Pretoria and the GYA, with the support of the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Read more [here](#).

ABOUT THE GYA

The GYA was founded with the vision to give 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, providing science advice, 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 258 alumni from 86 countries. The GYA Office is hosted at the German National Academy of Sciences [Leopoldina](#), in Halle (Saale), Germany.

CONTACT INFORMATION

[Dr Connie Nshemereirwe](#) (Uganda) GYA Co-Chair
[Dr Koen Vermeir](#) (France) GYA Co-Chair
[Dr Beate Wagner](#) GYA Managing Director

Signatories of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies

