



GLOBAL YOUNG ACADEMY

November 2018 Newsletter

We are now past the halfway point of the GYA year, and are turning our focus to our 10-year anniversary AGM in just under 5 months (how time flies!). To this end, the local and programme organising committees, as well as the office, are working feverishly to get all the invitations out, and to finalise the programme and the fundraising. For our part, the Executive Committee is beginning to look ahead at the issues that we will need to discuss between now and the AGM, as well as at the AGM itself.

This month has also seen us participate in an internal self-evaluation, which is meant to feed into the more general evaluation of the GYA over the current funding period. Even though the turnaround time for that survey was very tight, we were really gratified to receive more than 100 responses from GYA members and alumni, as well as from the early career scientists that we engage with in the various science and policy arenas in which we are active. We hope to share the results of this survey as soon as the analysis is complete, but we can tell you that the early indications are that the GYA has really impacted many people in special ways.

As always, the newsletter contains news from the membership and upcoming events and opportunities – do leave us your thoughts using the links provided – we are always eager to hear them.

Happy reading!

Tolu Oni (UK) and Connie Nshemereirwe (Uganda)
On behalf of the GYA Executive Committee

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GYA news

2019 AGM and International Conference for Young Scientists: 'Re-enlightenment? Truth, reason and science in a global world'

Interactive panels will examine 'enlightenment in a broad sense and from a global perspective, 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. Confirmed speakers include Clifford Siskin (Director of the Re-enlightenment project), Amy Luers (Executive Director of Future Earth), Vladimir Sucha (Director-General of the EU Joint Research Centre), and Sheila Jasanoff (Pforzheimer Professor of Science and Technology Studies at the Harvard Kennedy School). An additional panel will deal with the origins and history of the first science academies and learned societies, followed by a discussion on the future of academies, including the young academy movement. The Annual General Meeting surrounding the conference will celebrate the 10th year of the GYA, taking stock of the growth and accomplishments of the GYA over the last 10 years and developing a vision for its future. More information on the conference is available on the [conference website](#).

Making great Connections

The call for articles for the 10-year edition of the annual GYA Connections Magazine has been launched, and we are asking for your help to provide a full portrayal of the GYA's first ten years. For a special section titled **GYA in Memories**, we are asking for your most poignant, funniest, or entertaining anecdotes from past conferences, meetings or workshops that you might have attended with GYA members. Photographs are especially welcome, accompanied with short captions or anecdotes. We really hope to make this a special edition of Connections, and adding your voice would help us to archive the GYA's first ten years from as wide a perspective as possible. Please do consider sending a quick email response to this year's Connections Editor, GYA member [Anindita Bhadra](#). You don't have to write your contribution now – simply let her know you're interested. **Thank you!**

GYA Office opening times in December and January 2019

The GYA Office will be scarcely staffed from 14 to 21 December 2018, and will be closed from 22 December 2018. The Office will re-open on Monday, 7 January 2019.

GYA online



Facebook account nearing 6,000 followers

Our [GYA Facebook account](#) is doing very well, thanks to your interest and support! You might have noticed that we are just a handful of likes shy of reaching 6,000 followers. So in upcoming weeks, as you speak to colleagues, fellow researchers and scientists, please tell them about us, offer to [link them to our Facebook page](#), and have them hit that Like button! Maybe we can start 2019 with 6,000+ followers and begin working on the next thousand!

Readings of interest



Tearing down visa barriers

In a well-argued opinion piece in *Nature* titled '[Tear down visa barriers that block scholarship](#)', Co-Chair [Connie Nshemereirwe](#) (Uganda) discusses common obstacles to travel for scientists from the Global South, as well as potential solutions. One such solution is the Global Passport for Scholars (GPS), a project being developed by GYA members

[Leave your thoughts on GYA news here](#)

GYA in the media

A [United Nations Office at Geneva report](#) noted the GYA's involvement in its recent discussion on a draft on Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

[Leave your thoughts on GYA in the media here](#)

News from our members

[Stefan Kohler](#) (Germany) discusses precision health principles in a recently published article titled '[Precision medicine – moving away from one-size-fits-all](#)' in Quest: Science for South Africa.

'[Architects are Health Professionals Too](#)'. Co-Chair [Tolu Oni](#) (UK) spoke on urban health at the Conscious Cities Conference 2018 at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London.

[Clarissa Rios](#) (Peru) addresses empowering Latinos and filling the gap between science and society in [a video produced by Traces.Dreams](#).

[Lisa Herzog](#) (Germany) gave a keynote at the symposium '[Friends of the Open Society](#)' at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam, Germany.

GYA alumni [Yusuf Baran](#) (Turkey) has been named the President of Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey, by the President of Republic of Turkey.

[Leave your thoughts on News from our members here](#)

GYA activities

Working Group and Flagship Project highlights

At-Risk Scholars Initiative plans an exciting 2019

The member-led [At-Risk Scholars](#) initiative has matched 23 mentor-mentee pairs, and is currently organising two training workshops for 2019: the first is in collaboration with the EU Joint Research Centre, and the second is at Wolfson College, Oxford, UK.

Further, in the context of the GYA Membership Initiative, the group put forward two excellent scholars for GYA membership in the 2019 application round.

Looking forward, the group will be working to expand partnerships with organisations that vet at-risk scholars in the Global South. If you know of such organisations in your region or country, please contact the [project leads](#).



Young Science Ambassador Programme

In October 2018, the University of Belgrade in Serbia served as host to a GYA Young Scientist Ambassador Programme (YSAP) mission, where GYA member Thomas Edison dela Cruz (Philippines), a professor of microbiology at the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines, met with young scientists and professors.

[Read more here](#)

[Leave your thoughts on Working Group, Incubator and Flagship Projects here](#)

National Young Academies updates



German Junge Akademie signals support for academic freedom

In a show of support for the Central European University (CEU), The Junge Akademie (Germany) held its Autumn Plenary Session at CEU, which recently announced its move from Budapest, Hungary, to Vienna, Austria. This move is in response to a law proposed by the Hungarian government that threatened to greatly restrict academic freedom in Hungary in general and specifically challenged CEU's legitimacy.

[Read more here](#)



African National Young Academies of Science gather in Benin

Representatives of ten African National Young Academies (NYAs) had the opportunity to meet and engage with each other at the Académie nationale des sciences, arts et lettres du Bénin (ANSALB) in Cotonou, Benin, in November 2018. This informal meeting focussed on encouraging young scientists and academics to support the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) more effectively.

4th Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies 2019

The [4th Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies](#) will take place from 31 July to 2 August 2019 in Da Nang, Vietnam. The meeting will be hosted by the Vietnam Young Academy and co-organised by the GYA. It will be preceded by a 2-day conference on Nanomaterials for Health. Reflecting the global nature of this meeting, the Programme Organising Committee has members not only from the Vietnam Young Academy and the GYA, but from an additional 11 national young academies and academy initiatives: the Dutch Young Academy, the Nigerian Young Academy, the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, the Indian National Young Academy of Science, the Sri Lanka Academy of Young Scientists, the Thai Young Scientists Academy, the Young Academy of Japan, the Bangladesh NYA Initiative, the Nepal NYA Initiative, the Cameroon Young Scientists Academy Initiative, and the Hungarian NYA Initiative.

NYA updates – spread the news!

If you have any news or updates regarding your NYA, please [email Anna-Maria](#).

[Leave your thoughts on NYAs here](#)

GYA strategic conferences updates



Young scientists active at 2nd CILAC Forum

GYA members, scientists and scholars from around the globe were actively involved in the second [CILAC Forum](#) (Latin America and Caribbean Open Science Forum), which took place in Panama City, Panama from 22 to 24 October 2018.

See a video of GYA member [Bartłomiej Kolodziejczyk](#) (Australia) speaking on the panel titled 'Risk investment, public investment and new business models' [here](#).

A detailed report can be found [here](#).



Members Report: International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) conference in Tokyo

On 6 and 7 November 2018, more than 20 GYA members and alumni attended the 2018 biennial conference of the [International Network for Government Science Advice](#) (INGSA) in Tokyo, Japan.

A detailed report can be found [here](#).

Women in Science without Borders Conference 2019

The 3rd International Women in Science without Borders (WISWB) Conference will take place 12 to 14 March 2019 in Egypt. After successful conferences in Egypt (2017) and South Africa (2018), the third conference will focus on 'Science Diplomacy for Sustainable Development'.

GYA alumna [Amal Amin](#) (Egypt) continues to act as the Conference Chair. The Conference will be preceded by a training programme on 'Science diplomacy and science advice' on 10 to 11 March 2019. See [here](#) for further details and how to apply to participate.

[Leave your thoughts on GYA Strategic Meetings here](#)

GYA external partners



National academies of science and medicine urge policy makers to take immediate action on climate change

The [InterAcademy Partnership \(IAP\)](#) has published a global report on the 'Opportunities for future research and innovation on food and nutrition security and agriculture – The InterAcademy Partnership's global perspective'.

In this truly global report, the 130 national academies of science and medicine who make up the IAP urge policy-makers to take immediate action on climate change to improve the sustainability of global food systems. The authors call for an end to business-as-usual and urge leaders to look to science to drive innovation and inform policy.

[Read more here](#)

Upcoming events

Young Scientists Conference on Genomics

The Sudan Academy of Young Scientists (SAYS) together with the Sudanese National Academy of Sciences (SNAS) and the TWAS Regional Office for Sub-Saharan Africa (TWAS-ROSSA) will hold a Young Scientists Conference on 'Genomics and Human Health in Africa' from 2 to 7 December 2018 in Khartoum, Sudan. The conference will bring together a group of talented young African scientists to present their latest research activities in the rapidly advancing field of genomics. More information is available [here](#).

12-13 December 2018	Science Forum South Africa
12-13 March 2019	3rd Women in Science without Borders Conference, Egypt
18-20 March 2019	International Open Science Conference Berlin
29 Apr-3 May 2019	GYA Anniversary Conference and Annual General Meeting /Alumni Reunion, Halle, Germany
30 June – 5 July 2019	69th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting - Physics
29 July – 2 August 2019	4th Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies, Vietnam

[Leave your thoughts on Upcoming Events here](#)

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