



**GLOBAL
YOUNG
ACADEMY**

Newsletter October 2017

Foreword by the Co-Chairs

Dear friends of the Global Young Academy,

We hope you had a good time since our previous newsletter. Here at the GYA we've all been busy continuing to further our two main activities: addressing the global needs of capacity building among early-stage researchers and making it possible to leverage these skills to address global challenges.

As usual, this newsletter is packed with many updates from our activities as well as from our members, and we are sure it will contain more than one thing of relevance and/or interest to you.

Throughout the year, our members participate in various events, which offers a great opportunity for you to catch one of us. For example, if you happen to be at the upcoming World Science Forum in Jordan (<http://worldscienceforum.org/>) and are interested in meeting GYA members, please reach out to us. More than 25 of us, including Tolu and myself, will attend with many presentations by GYA members.

Should you have any questions and/or suggestions on where we can do better or where you see opportunities for the GYA, please let us know. Thank you!

Happy reading,
Tolu & Moritz

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GYA News

GYA Executive Committee in-person meeting

Global Young Academy [Executive Committee](#) (EC) members from around the world convened in Halle (Saale), Germany, at the German National Academy of Sciences [Leopoldina](#) and at the [GYA Office](#) from 2-3 October 2017. Due to the global nature of the GYA, the EC meets virtually at least once a month, but only comes together in person once or twice a year. Throughout the constructive two-day meeting, EC members discussed progress with respect to GYA strategic aims, virtually met with the GYA [Advisory Board](#), and liaised with regional and national politicians, science administrators, and academy representatives.

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/gya-executive-committee-convened-in-halle-saale-germany/>

Applications for GYA Membership

The call for new members to join the GYA in 2018 has motivated a record number of 402 early-career researchers to apply for membership. This means 140 applications more than last year and the highest number GYA has ever received. We are also proud to say that these applications come from 94 different countries in the world and that 39 percent of the applicants are women. Unfortunately, there are no reliable global numbers on how many women are in the course of building up their careers in the many different research-based disciplines, including the sciences, medicine, engineering, social sciences, the arts and humanities. But we are certain that the percentage of women applying for GYA membership is far above the share of women in the field. The applications are now handed over to GYA's Membership Selection Committee for the peer review process to identify GYA's new members in time for the upcoming Annual General Meeting, which will be held 7-11 May 2018 in Pattaya, Thailand.

Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings

On 26 August 2017, GYA Media Officer Kirsten Geithner presented and answered questions about the GYA at an information stand at the Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences. See a full report here: <https://globalyoungacademy.net/gya-at-the-6th-lindau-meeting-on-economic-sciences/>

Activities

GYA launches 3 new Incubators

The GYA has launched new Incubators on [Global Health](#), [DIY Synthetic Biology](#), and on [Science Advice](#).

Additional funding for existing working groups has been approved for the [Women in Science](#) group, the [Global Migration and Human Rights](#) group, and the [Science](#)

[incubators/](#)

Fritz Thyssen grant for Migration working group

The GYA group on [Migration & Human Rights](#) have won a Fritz Thyssen Foundation grant to hold a conference on the role of global individual responsibility in refugee integration in 2018!

2018 Women in Science without Borders Conference

GYA alumna [Amal Amin](#) (Egypt) is one of the organisers of the **Second Women in Science Without Borders Conference on “Resilience in Diversity”**, which will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, between 21-23 March 2018. The conference will encourage participation from both male and female scientists in all fields of STEM and gender issues where presenters will show their cutting edge research. **The deadline** for submission of Abstracts has been extended until 3 November 2017. For details see <http://wiswb2018.co.za/>

GloSYS Flagship project

The [Global State of Young Scientists \(GloSYS\) Africa](#) team held its second in-person meeting at Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco in early October 2017. <https://globalyoungacademy.net/global-state-of-young-scientists-project-researchers-meet-in-morocco/>

National Young Academies

Statement on the role of Young Academies in Achieving the UN SDGs

In July 2017, more than 60 representatives from over 35 Young Academies and similar young scientist initiatives from all over the world met in Johannesburg, South Africa. This meeting focused on the question of how young academies and young scientists can contribute to the achievement of the UN SDGs. Participants discussed the role of Young Academies in the national implementation of the SDGs, and they concluded that Young Academies can and should play a central role in conceptualising, developing and implementing strategies towards achieving the SDGs.

Out of this meeting, a statement on the role of young academies in the SDG process emerged, which has now been signed by 36 national young academies and academy initiatives from around the globe (out of a network of currently ca. 40 such academies). The statement will be published later this month.

IAP-Carnegie small grant

The [South African Young Academy of Science \(SAYAS\)](#), the [Tanzania Young Academy of Sciences](#) and the Young Academy initiative from Mauritius have teamed up and secured a small grant under the InterAcademy Partnership - Carnegie project on “Harnessing SEM to Meet Africa’s Challenges”. They will be working on a project on “Policy Direction: Eradication of hunger and achievement of food security”.

GYA EC member [Almas Taj Awan](#) (Brazil), GYA Member [Yusuf Baran](#) (Turkey), and GYA alumna [Amal Amin](#) (Egypt) attended the [TWAS Young Affiliates Conference](#) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in August 2017, where they presented at a session on Science Diplomacy.

New leadership at Israel Young Academy

GYA Member [Mona Khoury-Kassabri](#) has been elected Co-Chair of the [Israel Young Academy](#); she will serve together with Chair Eran Bouchbinder and Co-Chair Udi Sommer.

Young Academy of Europe Conference and AGM ‘Sustainability and Resilience’

GYA Members [Borys Wróbel](#) (Poland) and [Gergely Toldi](#) (Hungary) attended the meeting and introduced the GYA and several current working group activities. Full report here:

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/gya-members-at-young-academy-of-europes-sustainability-and-resilience-conference-and-agm/>

News from our members

Digital Open Science Symposium

GYA Co-Chair [Moritz Riede](#) (UK) spoke at the Policy Symposium ‘[Digital Open Science: Solving the Societal and Sustainability Challenges of the 21st Century](#)’ in September. Full report here:

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/digital-open-science-solving-the-societal-and-sustainability-challenges-of-the-21st-century/>

GYA Members selected for Canada’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists

Congratulations to Canadian GYA Member [Karly Kehoe](#), and Alumni [Julia Baum](#) and [Kai Chan](#) for having been selected as members for the Royal Society of Canada’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists! See here for more information:

<https://rsc-src.ca/en/about-us/our-people/our-priorities/royal-society-canada-welcomes-2017-members-college-new-scholars>

JRC Annual Conference ‘EU for Facts: Evidence for Policy in a post-fact World’

GYA Members [Maral Dadvar](#) (Germany), [Roberta D’Alessandro](#) (NL) and [Koen Vermeir](#) (France), and GYA Project Officer Jennifer Plaul attended the conference. Full report here:

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/eu-for-facts-evidence-for-policy-in-a-post-fact-world/>

9th World Health Summit ‘Science – Innovation – Policies’

GYA Member [Meghnath Dhimal](#) (Nepal) attended the [World Health Summit](#) in

global health security: Developing climate resilient health system in Nepal'. Full report here:

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/9th-world-health-summit-science-innovation-policies/>

GYA Member appointed Lead Guest Editor

GYA member [Meghnath Dhimal](#) (Nepal) has been appointed Lead Guest Editor to publish a special issue due in June 2018 on “Global Environmental Change and Changing Pattern of Infectious Diseases” for the Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology, an open-access international peer-reviewed journal. The Call for Contributions to the Special Issue can be found [here](#); the deadline for submissions is 2 February 2018.

Future of Biomedicine 2017 Conference

In September 2017, GYA Members [Sasha Kagansky](#) (UK/Russia) and [Andrey Konevega](#) (Russia), and Alumni [Vidushi Neergheen-Bhujun](#) (Mauritius) and [Aftab Ahmad](#) (Pakistan) organised the second international meeting on the ‘[Future of Biomedicine](#)’ (FOB) at the School of Biomedicine of the Far East Federal University (FEFU), Vladivostok, Russia. The meeting included a young scientists' forum (FOBY), and inaugurated a new Center for Genomic and Regenerative Medicine within the School of Biomedicine, which is led by Sasha.

Mini-Hackathon at international workshop ‘Assessing the Security Implications of Genome Editing Technology’

GYA Members [Abhi Veerakumarasivam](#) (Malaysia), [Sasha Kagansky](#) (UK/Russia) and [Bart Kolodziejczyk](#) (Australia), and Alumnus [Aftab Ahmad](#) (Pakistan) from the [DIY Synthetic Biology](#) Incubator ran a successful mini-hackathon to discuss security risks of genome editing technologies. More here:

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/mini-hackathon-future-security-challenges-of-genome-editing-technologies/>

IAP Science for Poverty Eradication Committee

GYA Member [Robert Lepenies](#) (Germany) was nominated by the GYA to the 12-member IAP Eradication of Poverty Committee, chaired by the Brazilian Academy of Sciences. The committee plans to meet in China in November 2017, to discuss how science academies can contribute to the implementation of SDGs 1 (No Poverty) and 10 (Reduced Inequalities) of the Sustainable Development Agenda.

UN FAO High-Level panel of experts on Food Security and Nutrition

GYA Member [Alex Godoy-Faúndez](#) (Chile) was nominated by the GYA and selected as a member of the High-Level panel of experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), at the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (UN FAO) in Rome.

[Aminata Garba](#) (Niger) and [Maha Nasr](#) (Egypt). The NEF Fellows programme recognises Africa's best young scientists and technologists. Fellows receive support to advance their scientific careers and to inspire the next generation of African innovators. <http://nef.org/meet-nef-fellows/2017-2019-nef-fellows/>

2017 Encouragement Award

GYA member [Yusuf Baran](#) (Turkey) was awarded with the 2017 Encouragement Award by the Turkish Academy of Pharmacy. The award has been given annually since 2005 by the Turkish Academy of Pharmacy to scientists studying in the field of pharmacy in order to appreciate their outstanding research, studies and services. For more information: <http://www.agu.edu.tr/news/3070/Prof.%20Yusuf%20Baran%20Awarded%20by%20Pharmacy%20Academy>

Fascination Astronomy Programme

GYA Alumnus [Martin Dominik](#) (UK) has published the final report on the Fascination Astronomy Programme, which has been mainly funded by the Qatar National Research Fund/Qatar Foundation. Scientists involved designed and carried out a range of active engagement programmes in the field of Astronomy with the goal to ignite fascination and encourage to wonder and question with guidance being provided to discover and investigate. Videos from training activities are available at <http://fatamorgana.surdej.net/> (username: Fascination; password: Astronomy).

GYA External Partners

International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA)

Strategy Meeting

GYA Co-Chair [Moritz Riede](#) (UK) met with other global stakeholders to discuss and finalise a guiding strategy document for INGSA on 11 September.

Regional Chapters

GYA Member [Abhi Veerakumarasivam](#) (Malaysia) chairs the initial steering committee for INGSA Asia, and GYA Alumnus [Sameh Soror](#) is a steering committee member for INGSA Africa.

GYA in the Media

- *iPolitics*: '[Making Canadians care about science again](#)'
- *Physics World*: '[Calls for Canada to support basic research](#)'
- *The Conversation*: '[How Scientists Can Help Make the Sustainable Development Goals a Reality](#)'
- *Medical University of Gdansk*: '[National Young Academies develops the Global Health Working Group](#)'
- *University World News*: '[New survey to assess challenges facing young scholars](#)'

Upcoming Events

20 October 2017	2nd Meeting of German/Austrian Young (Regional) Academies in Düsseldorf, Germany
23-26 October 2017	ICSU General Assembly in Taipei, Taiwan
23-25 October 2017	Global Science, Technology and Innovation Conference 2017 in Brussels, Belgium
25-26 October 2017	Volkswagen Foundation Conference on Science after the March for Science in Hannover, Germany
1 November 2017	Young Scientist Talk (Y-KAST) in Seoul, Korea
7-11 November 2017	World Science Forum in Amman, Jordan
10 November 2017	2nd 'Standing up for Science EU' workshop in Warsaw, Poland
11-13 November 2017	OpenCon 2017 in Berlin, Germany
13-14 November 2017	Annual Meeting of African Science Academies (AMASA), including INGSA-Africa Workshop in Abuja, Nigeria
26-29 November 2017	Science meets Parliaments (JRC) in Brussels, Belgium
11-13 February 2018	Meeting of the Asian Young Academies: 'Science and Society: Challenges and Prospects' in Jerusalem, Israel
21-23 March 2018	Second Women in Science without Borders Conference on 'Resilience in Diversity' in Johannesburg, South Africa
7-11 May 2018	GYA Annual General Meeting and 8th International Conference for Young Scientists 'Forever Young: sustainable and healthy longevity through science and technology' in Pattaya, Thailand

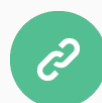
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