

# Transformative and Inclusive Science for a Sustainable Future

GYA AGM and International  
Conference of Young Scientists

Washington D.C., United States  
7-10 May 2024



GLOBAL  
YOUNG  
ACADEMY



NATIONAL ACADEMIES *Sciences  
Engineering  
Medicine*

## A word from the GYA Co-Chairs

The 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and International Conference of Young Scientists in Washington, D.C., USA, was an inspiring, dynamic event. As a result of the fantastic collaboration with our hosts, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, and its New Voices Programme, we held over 25 engaging workshops, panels and sessions throughout the week.

The International Conference of Young Scientists focused on the topic “Transformative and Inclusive Science for a Sustainable Future”, with panels addressing the role of young scientists and young academies in shaping the future, how science benefits from diversity, and how science should be made available to benefit diverse populations. We also discussed the key role innovation and technology transfer plays in sustainability impact. The entire Conference was live-streamed, with interactive Q&A options available to the in-person audience and to those joining online.

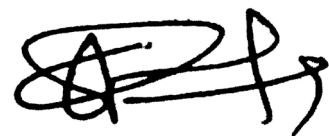
At our AGM, we welcomed 44 new members altogether in the official inauguration; 32 of

these were present at the AGM in Washington, D.C.: we are excited to work together with this inspiring new cohort for the next 5 years! Throughout our AGM, we also held Executive Committee elections, and spent time in General Assembly sessions discussing important developments of the GYA, such as: reforms to our membership selection process, potential changes to how we conduct elections, how to streamline our activities structures, and finally we jointly addressed maintaining trust and integrity when working together as a global community.

Looking to the coming year, we are already busy building on the momentum from the 2024 AGM and Conference, to continue to strengthen the GYA’s internal structures, and to increase opportunities for GYA members to collaborate in impactful ways. We hope to remain in contact with you online until we see you in-person in Hyderabad, India in June 2025!



Yensi Flores Bueso  
University College Cork; University  
of Washington in Seattle, Ireland/  
United States



Chandra Shekhar Sharma  
Indian Institute of Technology,  
India

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### Partners and Funders



## Transformative and Inclusive Science for a Sustainable Future - the 2024 GYA Annual General Meeting and International Conference of Young Scientists

Over 200 participants from over 50 countries gathered for the 2024 GYA Annual General Meeting and International Conference of Young Scientists, which was hosted at the [U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine](#). The event was supported by a Local Organising Committee comprising GYA members in the USA, members of the National Academies' [New Voices in Science, Engineering, and Medicine](#) program, and National Academies staff. The GYA and New Voices both promote diverse interdisciplinary networks of early- to mid-career researchers, and their engagement with society and its biggest challenges. The collaboration between GYA and New Voices resulted in a unique International Conference of Young Scientists, exploring the topic "Transformative and Inclusive Science for a Sustainable Future", together with renowned speakers from around the world. Panel discussions revolved around how science can create and enable change at local, national and global levels, and how increasing the diversity of scientific processes as well as science communication and outreach can increase the impact of science on society. Ensuring the prosperity and well-being of communities should be founded

on science that is capable of addressing the current and future complex challenges societies face.

[Conference panel recordings can be viewed here.](#)

While the four conference panels and a keynote talk explored aspects of the conference theme, capacity-building workshops, a US Partnerships Expo and other sessions throughout the week brought together members and alumni of the GYA, local and international speakers and guests, members and alumni of the New Voices, as well as locally based [Mirzayan Fellows](#).

The traditional GYA member networking format "lightning talks" provided GYA and New Voices members an opportunity to present to one another about their research. Short, engaging presentations led to insight into research topics as diverse as AI-human interaction, soil microbiomes and measuring labor trafficking. These exchanges set the stage for future interdisciplinary connections. Read the [book of abstracts for over 60 Lightning Talks](#) presented in 2024.





## GYA Annual General Meeting

The GYA's 2024 Annual General Meeting was officially opened by Co-Chair [Priscilla Kolibea Mante](#) (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana) and Acting Co-Chair [Monika Kędra](#) (Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland), with an online greeting from Co-Chair [Felix Moronta](#) (International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Italy). In the past year, the GYA overcame internal challenges, operationalised its [Strategic Plan 2024-2027](#) and strengthened international partnerships.

With the opening of the AGM, outgoing GYA members officially became alumni and [44 new GYA members](#) were inaugurated and welcomed to the GYA for five-year terms. The GYA's 2024 new member cohort includes members residing in 30 countries, covering all GYA general disciplines.

Additional AGM sessions throughout the week included the Activities Groups Fair, Working Group meetings, Executive Committee elections, and General Assembly meetings, in which there was opportunity to discuss ongoing and future development of the organisation. The GYA used these

sessions to work together on trust and community building, and addressed topics such as online voting and changes to membership selection procedures. Minutes of the AGM are available to members on the GYA Intranet.

A "highlights session" for GYA Activities Groups presented selected recent collaborative outcomes by four GYA groups:

- The 2021/22 Sasha Kagansky Interdisciplinary Grant project "Young Researchers and the COVID-19 Pandemic" launched their book "[COVID Pandemic Up Close](#)", a collection of ECRs' experiences during the COVID pandemic.
- A report was given on the recently completed project of the [Global Migration Working Group](#) "Global Compact of Refugees – pledges and awareness raising on Rohingya Response".
- A booklet compiled by the Women in Science Working Group on "[Challenges faced by women researchers: Stories from all around the globe](#)" was presented by the group's co-leads.
- The [Scientific Excellence Working Group](#) presented a study on "Promotion Criteria".







## Executive Committee Elections

To represent and steer the organization through the upcoming year, GYA members elected 11 Executive Committee (EC) members, including 2 Co-Chairs.

As Co-Chairs for the upcoming year, members elected [Chandra Shekhar Sharma](#) (Indian Institute of Technology, India) and [Yensi Flores Bueso](#) (University College Cork; University of Washington in Seattle, Ireland/United States). Yensi served as a member of the EC last year.

Chandra joined the GYA in 2020, and is also past Chair of the Indian National Young Academy of Sciences and Professor with the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad. His research interests include energy storage devices and nature-inspired functional surfaces.

Yensi, a GYA member since 2021, is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Global Individual Fellow, which she uses to pursue a research project on Cancer Research at the University Col-

lege Cork and the Institute for Protein Design, University of Washington, Seattle. Through this project ([BacStar](#)), she is working on strategies for the delivery of biomolecules by intratumoural bacteria, so these can serve as vehicles for the delivery of Cancer Therapeutics.

The following 9 members were elected to the 2024/25 EC: [Devina Lobine](#) (Higher Education Commission, Mauritius), [Francesco Maurelli](#) (Constructor University, Germany), [Hiba Baroud](#) (Vanderbilt University, United States), [Hussam Hussein](#) (Jordan), [Justine Nzweundji-Khumbah](#) (Institute of Medical Research and Medicinal Plants Studies, Cameroon/Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation, Cameroon, Kenya), [Markus J. Prutsch](#), (European Parliament, Belgium), [Sam Chan Siok Yee](#) (Universiti Sains Malaysia), [Sri Fatmawati](#) (Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember, Indonesia), [Wasim Sajjad](#) (National University of Medical Sciences, Pakistan).

“ I am honored to serve my fellow GYA members and esteemed academy as Co-chair. I look forward to work together with my co-chair, colleagues at the EC and the whole academy to continue and expand the impact of our work for the progress of science, our society, and our planet.

- [Yensi Flores Bueso](#) (University College Cork; University of Washington in Seattle, Ireland/United States)

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“ I believe in the strength of collaboration and open communication. Together, we have the power to drive change, inspire others, and make a lasting impact.

- [Chandra Shekhar Sharma](#) (Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, India)

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Transformative and Inclusive Science for a Sustainable Future





## Conference Opening Panel

The 2024 International Conference of Young Scientists was officially opened by GYA Co-Chair [Priscilla Kolibea Mante](#) (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana) and Local Organizing Committee Co-Chair and GYA alumnus [Tyrone Grandison](#) (Microsoft, USA), who both reflected on the close collaboration between the U.S. New Voices and the Global Young Academy that resulted in this amazing event for young scientists from around the world being hosted at the National Academies in Washington, D.C. Tyrone urged participants to connect, with one another and with speakers and moderators throughout the week, then to use those connections to collaborate and solve problems.

The Opening Panel of the conference showcased distinguished speakers from the host country, including [Marcia McNutt](#) (President, National Academy of Sciences, United States), [Vint Cerf](#) (VP, Chief Internet Evangelist at Google; Honorary Fellow and Inaugural Patron of the ISC) and [Patricia Gruber](#) (Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State). Their conversation on transformative and inclusive science was moderated by Local Organizing Committee Co-Chair [Hussam Mahmoud](#) (Colorado State University, USA; Co-Chair New Voices).

Speakers shared their experience as science leaders in different sectors, and their advice for researchers in earlier stages of their careers. All speakers highlighted the breadth of opportunities available to ECRs looking to be involved in science

policy, and the need for diverse perspectives to be at the table when searching for solutions. Scientific breakthroughs would often not be possible without the contributions of hundreds of researchers from around the world.

The importance of connection as a key to future success was underlined by several speakers. Personal connections are often important in later career stages, paving the way for smoother collaboration on current and urgent problems. Vint Cerf expressed the importance of collaboration, offering the advice based on his successful experiences: “If you want to do something big, get help”. In order to get help, ECRs need to be vocal about their ideas and convince others of their relevance. Furthermore, collaboration – based on connections – is a powerful way to make progress. Countless examples of science diplomacy demonstrate that scientific collaboration have continued to connect societies through science even in times of political conflict. Paving the way for conversations in the upcoming panels, the speakers reflected that transformative research is not always immediately recognized as such, and continuous communication and openness to other perspectives are needed to lend science to global solutions.





## Plenary Panel I - Bridging the Gap and Paving the Way for Future Leaders

Moderated by [Meghana Gadgil](#) (Associate Professor, University of California San Francisco; New Voices Member), this panel discussion highlighted national and global initiatives to promote young leaders in science and research, and addressed associated benefits and challenges.

Speakers [Gregory Weiss](#) (Professor, University of California Irvine; Founding GYA Member), [Kimberly Montgomery](#) (Director, International Affairs and Science Diplomacy at AAAS), [Ponpang Kaewtatip](#) (Vice President, Thailand Research and Innovation) and [Priscilla Kolibea Mante](#) (Professor, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Ghana; GYA Co-Chair) were joined by GYA discussant [Hanjo Hamann](#) (EBS University of Business and Law, Germany).

A main tenor of the discussion, as indicated in the panel title, was how to foster early-career researchers (ECRs) as individual future leaders, and how to create environments conducive to ECRs' growth. Throughout the interventions and discussion, different gaps to bridge were identified. Ponpang Kaewtatip addressed the gap between science and industry and efforts to bridge this gap through education and science policy in Thailand and SE Asia. Further gaps identified were those between generations, between nations and world regions, and finally the gap between disciplines.

Priscilla Kolibea Mante focused on fostering connection between senior and early-career scientists and researchers, stating clearly that "leaders

should develop leaders." Current science leaders have overcome barriers and are therefore well positioned to help ECRs face challenges. Not only mentoring, but also cross-generational collaboration in research projects, in policy and advocacy efforts are needed. Incorporating the perspectives of ECRs at the decision-making table is also key to achieving greater impact.

Kimberly Montgomery highlighted the work of AAAS on building relationships between scientific communities worldwide through science diplomacy and communication training. The importance of science and technology is being increasingly recognized in international diplomacy, although many challenges remain to achieving science diplomacy in a complex and highly competitive geopolitical context. While awareness of the importance of science is increasing, so are the rules and limits on topics for international scientific cooperation, often due to national security considerations.

Greg Weiss brought his perspective as an alumnus of the GYA and a founding member of the organization to the conversation. He presented on the humble beginnings of the GYA and the careful deliberations that went into building the young academy as an inclusive and impactful body. One of the key functions of organizations like the GYA is to provide space for fostering informal connections. These informal connections and networks will lead to better science and leadership opportunities in the future.



## Plenary Panel II - In a Challenging World, No One Should be Left Behind

This panel, moderated by GYA member [Hiba Baroud](#) (Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University, USA), addressed the complicated practice of inclusive science: how can science include more perspectives and benefit everyone in society? Panel speakers shared their experiences in non-profit organizations, in research and in government, looking at inclusivity in theory and in practice; from a science discovery standpoint to the view to science dissemination.

Speakers included [Sudip Parikh](#) (Chief Executive Officer and Executive Publisher, Science Journals, AAAS), [Asmeret Asefaw Berhe](#) (Professor of Soil Biogeochemistry, University of California, Merced; NVs Member), [Nishal Mohan](#) (Founder of Mohuman, USA) and [Flavio Carvalhaes](#) (Assistant Professor, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, GYA Member), and were joined by GYA discussant [Sandra López Verges](#) (Gorgas Memorial Institute for Health Studies, Panama).

Nishal Mohan is the founder of mohuman, a start-up working to reduce the digital divide in disadvantaged US communities. The unequal availability of internet connectivity exacerbates inequalities of access: to information, to resources, and even to education in times of remote learning as we saw during the COVID-19 pandemic. Nishal's experience working with communities, with researchers and local governments, led to the creation of community-based network models. His takeaways for making change are to continually raise the bar higher for what can be achieved by making incremental changes, and to "consider people first in everything you do as scientists, to solve problems

with them and not at them."

Flavio Carvalhaes conducts social science research on inequality and focused his talk on questions of inequalities in the distribution of resources across individuals. Uneven access to resources has consequences for societies: for social cohesion and trust, but also for educational opportunities, safety and political participation. According to the research, most people agree that inequality is not a good thing, but ideas about how it should be tackled differ widely. Therefore, understanding not only the existence of inequalities, but how people perceive them, is a key area of social science research to overcome this challenge.

Asmeret Asefaw Berhe discussed the diversity gap in STEM research fields and how this can be overcome in the academic community. Asmeret's research focuses on the intersection of soil, political ecology and climate change, she is a strong advocate for women in science and served as the Director of the Office of Science at the US Department of Energy from 2022 to 2024.

Sudip Parikh told the story of an interdisciplinary exploratory approach to research that upended existing assumptions about reality, as an example of how the "aperture of science" can be expanded through better representation in science. When researchers come from underrepresented groups, they ask different questions. It is also crucial, especially for publishers like the AAAS, to work towards making research results accessible with open publishing models.





## Plenary Panel III - Science Innovation, Transformation, or Both

Moderated by former New Voices Co-Chair [Alison Sheets-Singer](#) (Biomechanics, Nike Sport Research Lab), this panel discussed multi-stakeholder partnerships involved in the translation of scientific innovations to applications in society that contribute to sustainable development and help people in their everyday lives.

The panel featured GYA member [Derya Baran](#) (Professor, KAUST, Saudi Arabia), [Timothy Jones](#) (Founder and Managing Principal, TBJ Investments), [Mohamed Abdel-Kader](#) (Chief Innovation Officer, USAID) and [Ourania Kosti](#) (Executive Director, InterAcademy Partnership) as well as GYA discussant [Hugues Nana](#) (Higher Institute of Scientific and Medical Research, Cameroon).

Speakers held a dynamic conversation around what it means to translate science to the broadest audience possible, also coming back to a key takeaway from the previous panels, as stated by Alison Sheets-Singer: “It matters who gets to be involved in science and whose voices are amplified.”

Derya Baran focused on examples from her work of working in cross-disciplinary ways to develop sustainable green energy solutions to diverging energy needs in different climates. As a scientist, looking at the problems people need to solve in specific contexts can inspire and change the innovation process. Understanding the needs of those

who will use technologies is part of the equation, as is coordinating with policymakers to increase understanding of the benefits of innovative technologies.

Timothy Jones spoke from his experience working with science-based innovators, emphasizing the need to understand the impact of customer and societal acceptance on success in translating innovation. Both Timothy and Mohamed Abdel-Kader stressed the impact of long-term institutions, such as universities and government organizations, in investments with long-term returns, such as sustainability solutions and education.

Ourania Kosti introduced the work of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), which brings together scientists and stakeholders to jointly address key global challenges around the world, often within regional partnerships. IAP leads in engaging early-career researchers in its projects, who often contribute an open approach to crossing disciplinary silos.

Hugues Nana brought up the chicken-egg question of whether scientists should consider the use cases of innovations before starting research, or rather first innovate and then consider application. All speakers weighed in with examples coming to the conclusion that both are necessary and useful approaches: innovation comes in different ways.





## Conference Highlights

Beyond the panels, the International Conference of Young Scientists featured many other highlights, including a Keynote talk, a Gala Dinner, breakfast with the Washington, D.C. Science Diplomats Club and a US Partnerships Expo.

**Keynote speaker** [Frances Colón](#) (Senior Director, International Climate Policy at American Progress) gave an inspirational speech about her journey from research to local policy work, to where she is now, advocating for climate solutions at a global level. She encouraged early-career researchers to stay in touch with what people need in their everyday lives, connecting their science to people's needs when engaging with decision makers. She also demonstrated the importance of including the perspectives of science leaders of diverse origin, generations and discipline. These diverse perspectives are crucial so that science can speak to different communities.

The Conference **Gala Dinner** was hosted at the French Embassy to the United States, with the Counselor for Science and Technology, Mireille Guyader, welcoming guests. Former GYA Advisory Board member [Bruce Alberts](#) gave a key-note talk, looking back on the development of the GYA and New Voices, bringing the voice of ECRs to the science-policy conversation.

At a **Science Diplomacy Breakfast**, [Asmeret Asefaw Berhe](#) (Professor of Soil Biogeochemistry, University of California, Merced; NVs Member) spoke with a focus on her experience in science diplomacy at the US Department of Energy.

The **US Partnerships Expo** brought together over 50 representatives of US-based research institutions and science policy organisations in a networking fair joined by GYA and New Voices members.







## Science Leadership Workshop for New GYA Members

In tandem with the 2024 AGM, 40 participants, [newly selected GYA members](#), guests and mentors, took part in a 2-day Science Leadership Workshop. The workshop aimed to create space for collaborative and individual reflection on how to be leaders in diverse contexts. Early career researchers exercise leadership in their research contexts, in the institutions and communities where they live and work, and within the GYA. During the workshop, participants practiced effective and creative problem solving and collective leadership tools. Pre-AGM science leadership workshops have been offered as a training opportunity for new members

since the GYA's 2018 AGM, expertly facilitated by [InclusiveInnovation](#); The 2024 workshop was facilitated by Maggie Dugan, César Guerrero and Leshi Oluwatosin. GYA members [Devina Lobine](#) (Higher Education Commission, Mauritius), [Markus Prutsch](#) (European Parliament, Belgium) and [Lydia Rhyman](#) (University of Mauritius) took part in the workshop as mentors.

Read more here about [the GYA science leadership model](#).

## Reflections from participants

“ I liked that the tools that are really helpful in our own research careers. I feel like this workshop will have a great impact on our time and resource management skills.

– [Inayat Ullah](#) (National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST), Pakistan)



“ There are not many times you actually stop and think about your own and others approaches and views in life.

– [Melina Flórez-Cuadros](#) (Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Peru)



## Biosecurity and Research Assessment

As a collaboration between the GYA Working Groups [Scientific Excellence](#), [Trust in \(Young\) Scientists](#) and [Open Science](#) with the [Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment \(CoARA\)](#), the workshop “**Re-forming Research Assessment to Foster an Open and Socially Responsive Research Culture**” was organized to address movements dedicated to reforming research culture.

Science plays a pivotal role in the advancement of democratic societies, and there is a growing consensus advocating for its recognition as both a common good and a fundamental human right. To effectively fulfil this role, science necessitates the trust of society, the support of policy makers, and robust international collaboration, including the mobility of researchers and the free flow of knowledge. To encourage this, researchers often take on responsibilities that extend beyond the realm of academic publishing. They encompass science outreach, education, diplomacy, policy advocacy, entrepreneurship, and collaborations aimed at addressing global challenges or progress towards more equitable societies. However, this kind of engagement is hampered by research assessment practices which perpetuate a ‘publish or perish’ research culture that confines the scope of science to academic publishing. The current system of research assessment fosters privilege-based biases, and prioritises quantity over quality, as well as prestige over integrity. The workshop aimed to shed light on these problems and commonly seek

solutions. **Watch the recorded panel here:** [Re-forming Research Assessment to Foster an Open and Socially Responsive Research Culture](#)

In parallel, the workshop **Advancing Biosecurity: Promoting Responsible Research through the Tianjin Biosecurity Guidelines** was organized by the IAP-funded project “Advancing Biosafety”, led by GYA Co-Chair [Felix Moronta Barrios](#) (International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Italy). The workshop explored bioethics and the code of conduct guiding bioscientists, with a particular emphasis on the significance of ethical research, especially for early-career scientists. Speakers engaged in scenario-based activities designed to foster open dialogue and address ethical dilemmas prevalent in bioscience research. The workshop offered a valuable platform to navigate the landscape of biosecurity, ensuring that responsible scientific conduct is early on. An outcome of the project was introduced: a biosecurity video game, serving to reinforce the Tianjin Biosecurity Guidelines Code of Conduct for Scientists through immersive simulated scenarios. The project aimed to deepen understanding of ethical practices in bioscience, working towards fostering a safer and more responsible scientific community.

**Find more information here:**  
<http://advancingbiosecurity.science>.





## Science Diplomacy and Science Advice

The **Science Diplomacy Forum** led by the [Science Diplomacy in the Americas](#) Working Group was designed as a space where GYA members and alumni, and local early-career researchers interested in science diplomacy could meet and reflect on different topics with invited diplomats residing in Washington, D.C.. The programme showcased relevant GYA activities, and offered learnings about the current science diplomacy initiatives of the invited diplomats, and about aspects such as what the daily work of a science diplomat looks like, and what kind of skills this field of action requires. Participants reflected and exchanged ideas on effective ways to incorporate young scientists in science diplomacy initiatives.

In parallel, the hybrid workshop “**Science Advice Masterclass: A Global Transdisciplinary Approach**”, organized by the [Science Advice](#) Working Group, focused on international science advice from the perspective of a cross-disciplinary

collaboration at the science-policy interface, with the opportunity to engage in exercises addressing real-life problems with peers and experts in science for policy and diplomacy. GYA members [Laura Zimmermann](#) (University of Georgia, United States) and [Jovana V. Milic](#) (University of Fribourg, Switzerland) contributed, working with partners for this training workshop, including speakers from the International Science Council ([ISC](#)), the African chapter of the International Network for Government Science Advice ([INGSA Africa](#)), and the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator ([GESDA](#)). Workshop participants came from the GYA membership, as well as GYA alumni and Office staff. Additionally, members of the US Young Academy, the [US New Voices](#), as well as participants from partner organisations were invited.







## AI Horizons & Diverse Minds

The workshop “**AI Horizons: Empowering Sustainable Science for a Better Tomorrow**”, organized by the [Science Education for Youth](#) Working Group, explored the pivotal role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in advancing science and driving sustainable development. In an era marked by unprecedented challenges, AI stands as a transformative force, propelling us towards innovative solutions and a more sustainable future. After an introduction on AI and Intelligent Systems, the program highlighted various scientific areas, to show the societal and economic impact AI is having across domains. Massive datasets, inference and reasoning algorithms, complex phenomena modelling unveil hidden patterns and accelerate scientific discovery. AI-driven technologies are also making education more accessible and personalized, bridging gaps in learning opportunities and fostering inclusive, lifelong learning. It is important, however, to ensure that AI advancements benefit all segments of society, minimizing biases, and promoting inclusive, equitable progress. The workshop aimed to inspire collaboration, foster innovative thinking, and emp-

ower participants to harness the potential of AI for a better tomorrow.

The parallel workshop “How Might Diverse Minds Come Together to Build a Future People Want? A workshop on foundational values for collaboration and supporting at-risk scholars” was co-organized by the GYA At-Risk Scholars Initiative and the Addressing Systemic Discrimination Working Group. Speakers [Lalit Khandare](#) (Pacific University, United States), [Vanessa Schweizer](#) (University of Waterloo, Canada) and [Mirjam Brusius](#) (German Historical Institute London, UK) discussed the values of mutual respect and active listening, which underlie the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and meaningful collaboration with diverse people. Participants were encouraged to reflect on how such values might inspire their personal and professional approach to intercultural communication and conflict resolution. The GYA At-Risk Scholars Initiative introduced its activities, goals and partners, inspiring early-career researchers to consider offering peer mentorship to at-risk scholars.







## Women in Science for Peace Workshop

As the first part of a workshop series being organised by the GYA [Women in Science](#) Working Group, the in-person workshop “Women in Science for Peace” was held during the AGM week. Lindsay Burr (Yarborough Group) facilitated, exploring divergent individual approaches to conflict, as a basis for equipping participants with a more nuanced understanding of conflict resolution and negotiation in a variety of contexts. Over 50 ECRs took part in the nearly two hour interactive workshop. Working with a concept of polarities, participants addressed direct and diplomatic approaches to conflict, and discussed tools to move between these. With this introduction to the different ways

people understand and react to conflict, the workshop aimed to give participants insight into how to handle conflicts and disputes effectively, fostering a more inclusive, diverse, and peaceful scientific community.

The Women in Science for Peace workshop, and the ongoing workshop series (which will include an online Inclusive Leadership workshop in July 2024), is funded by a grant from the [Henry Luce Foundation](#). With this grant, the GYA was able to offer financial support for the first time to mothers with small children to attend the event with their child and a supporting caretaker.

## Reflections from participants

“ The Women in Science for Peace workshop inspires future female scientists to view their work as a catalyst for change, blending scientific inquiry with a commitment to peace for a more inclusive world.

– [Neema Mduma](#) (The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Tanzania)

”



“ Participating in this workshop was enlightening, highlighting the importance of addressing underlying interests in conflicts rather than positions—an essential approach for effectively resolving disputes, especially in conflict-prone regions like mine.

– [Abdulsatar Sultan](#) (Catholic University in Erbil, Iraq)

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“ The funding for mothers allowed me to bring a caregiver for my one-year-old while I attended AGM activities. This grant provided an invaluable opportunity to network and learn about new research developments

– [Andrea Molnar](#) (Swinburne University of Technology, Australia)

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## Partners and funders

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The GYA extends a warm thank you to the many individuals – staff at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine and at the GYA, members and alumni of the New Voices and the GYA – as well as the cooperating partners, funding institutions and sponsors who made this event possible: U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, New Voices in Science, Engineering and Medicine, InterAcademy Partnership, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the The Henry Luce Foundation.

### About the hosts

New Voices in Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine is a leadership engagement program that promotes collaboration among outstanding early- and mid-career scientists, engineers, and medical professionals during a two-year term of service. The program aims to expand the diversity of expertise engaged in the convening and advisory functions of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine while building a network of emerging U.S. leaders to address national and global challenges.





## Imprint

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## About the Global Young Academy

The vision of the GYA is science for all; science for the future, and its mission is to give a voice to young scientists and researchers around the world. The GYA, founded in 2010, is an independent science academy of 200 outstanding early- to mid-career researchers from six continents who are selected from across disciplines based on their academic excellence and commitment to engage with society. GYA members serve five-year terms, and the GYA counts members and alumni from more than 100 countries. The GYA administrative Office is hosted at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. The wide array of GYA activities are supported by a range of international public and private funders. This publication was made possible with the help of GYA's core funding from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the German State of Saxony-Anhalt.

**Co-Chairs:** Chandra Shekhar Sharma (Indian Institute of Technology, India)  
Yensi Flores Bueso (University College Cork; University of Washington in Seattle, Ireland/United States)

**Managing Director:** Beate Wagner (Germany)



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