

The Quarterly Newsletter of IAP - The Global Network of Science Academies



WELCOME FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Dear IAP Member Academies,

The leaders of [ICSU](#), [TWAS](#), and [IAP](#) met on 18 February 2014 in Trieste, Italy, at the headquarters of TWAS to explore the strengthening of collaboration between their respective bodies. The meeting enabled the sharing of strategic plans, priorities and activities. Discussions also took place on where and how the organizations can most effectively work together for the benefit of science, society and their respective memberships and communities. Representatives of [IAMP](#), the InterAcademy Medical Panel, [OWSD](#), the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World, [IAC](#), the InterAcademy Council, and [GYA](#), the Global Young Academy, also took part in the interesting and fruitful discussions.



We are pleased to report that the IAP/IAC fundraising strategy is gaining momentum. A number of IAP members have already made commitments to the campaign, as well as to the voluntary membership contributions campaign. A complete list is available [here](#). However, there is still a long way to go before we reach our goal. Other Academies have offered further in-kind support to host workshops or to print publications, etc, and we express our sincerest thanks to these academies for their much appreciated support. We hope this initial positive response will encourage other IAP members to engage with the campaign! Further updates will be provided to members, and discussions on next steps will take place at the forthcoming integrated IAP and IAC EC board meeting, hosted by the [Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei](#) in Rome, Italy, this coming May.

In the meantime, a Working Group has been busy preparing the next IAP Statement on synthetic biology. We expect the statement to be shared with members by 9 April 2014 for endorsement and release prior to the forthcoming meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity scheduled for Montreal, Canada, this coming June.

Mohamed Hassan & Volker ter Meulen

IAP HORIZON-SCANNING	IAP CALENDAR
<p>IAP has asked all its member academies and affiliated regional networks and the GYA to contribute to a horizon-scanning exercise to identify potential new topics for IAP statements. The IAP Secretariat has received a number of valuable proposals in various fields of science. These will now be discussed at the upcoming meeting in May 2014. Member academies are encouraged to continue to provide feedback.</p> <p>For information on current IAP Projects, funded in 2014, including updates on recent activities and workshops, see Projects & Programmes on the IAP website.</p>	<p>IAP Executive Committee and IAC Board Meeting @ Rome, Italy 15-16 May 2014 Followed by a Joint IAP/IAC/IAMP Session</p> <p>IAP Executive Committee Meeting @ Paris, France 6-7 November 2014 For more updates, see Meetings & Events.</p>

FROM IAP MEMBER ACADEMIES

In November 2013, the [Lithuanian Academy of Sciences](#) organized a conference on “Invest in Researchers: Better Training and Careers Using new Funding Opportunities” in Vilnius, Lithuania, which focused on the novel elements of the EU’s [Horizon 2020](#) framework programme.

The [Report](#) from the workshop ‘Sharing the Start-Up Experience’ which was aimed at GYA members and outstanding early career scientists working in Asia, organized by the [Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities](#) in November 2013, is now available.

The [Royal Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of Spain](#) hosted a meeting on ‘The Young Academy Spring’ in Madrid in January 2014. The event gave IAP co-chair Volker ter Meulen an opportunity to meet with a number of young scientists and discuss GYA/IAP synergies.

A publication by the [Royal Society](#) (UK) and the US [National Academy of Sciences](#) in February 2014 on the [evidence and causes of climate change](#) intends to be a key reference document for authoritative answers about the current state of climate-change science.

In March 2014, the [Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences](#) (KNAW) and the [German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina](#), together with [EASAC](#), organized a brainstorming workshop on ‘Antimicrobial Drug Discovery, Greater Steps Ahead’ in Hannover, Germany, to explore a radically different approach to antimicrobial drug research and new paths in drug discovery. A report will be available shortly.

The [Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters](#) will host the forthcoming General Assembly of [ALLEA](#) on the occasion of ALLEA’s 20th anniversary on 24-25 April 2014, in Oslo, Norway. The meeting will be preceded by a scientific symposium on ‘Enabling early career researchers - needs for training of a new generation’.

Some of the issues to be addressed at the [African-European-Mediterranean Academies for Science Education conference](#), organized by the [Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei](#) on 19-20 May 2014, Rome, Italy, include improving science communication, championing formal and informal science education, fostering science literacy for sustained economic growth and human welfare.

On 27-29 May 2014, the [Australian Academy of Science](#) will hold its annual [Science at the Shine Dome](#) event in Canberra, Australia.

With support from IAP, the [Turkish Academy of Sciences](#) (TUBA) will host the [AASSA](#) Regional Workshop on ‘[Women in Science and Technology](#)’ on 29-31 May 2014 in Izmir, Turkey.

See [IAP News](#) for further updates on recent events and publications from Members, Networks and Observers.

FROM IAP NETWORKS

NASAC organized a [joint workshop on agricultural biotechnology](#) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February 2014, together with the Leopoldina and input from [EASAC](#). The Chief Scientific Adviser to the President of the European Commission, Anne Glover, took part in the event, along with the IAP co-chairs. Delegates agreed on the potential of agricultural biotechnology to contribute to sustainable agriculture and address the pressing problems of food and nutrition insecurity across the continent.

AASSA published a [brochure](#) detailing the results of activities as an IAP affiliated regional network for 2013. AASSA will hold a [Regional Workshop](#) on ‘Sustainable management of water resources and conservation of mountain lake ecosystems of Asian countries’ in Yerevan, Armenia on 25-29 June 2014, and on 2-4 July 2014, AASSA is co-organizing a [Science Editors meeting](#) in Seoul, Korea.

Jointly with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, **EASAC** organized the first in a series of regional events on ‘[Science-based advice for policy-making and society](#)’ in Budapest, Hungary, in March 2014. The meeting showcased 3 of [EASAC](#)’s recent reports: “Extreme Weather Events”, “DTC Genetic Testing” and “Planting the Future”. Furthermore, [EASAC](#) recently published a report ‘[Risks to Plant Health](#)’, launched at an event in Brussels, Belgium.

As part of its Water Program, **IANAS** published an English version of “[Diagnosis of Water in the Americas](#)”, on the occasion of [World Water Day](#) (22 March 2014), following the success of the earlier Spanish-language version of the report.

IAMP is currently accepting nominations from member academies for a [Health Inequities Review workshop](#) to be held in Trieste, Italy on 3-5 July 2014.

Visit the [Networks pages](#) for more publications supported by IAP

GLOBAL YOUNG ACADEMY (GYA)

In January 2014, the GYA launched a report on ‘The Global State of Young Scientists’ ([GLoSYS Project](#)). IAP has provided support to the GYA to research and produce a new brochure on ‘[Opportunities for Young Scientists in Academies](#)’.

Two members of the GYA were invited to give a statement at the inaugural meeting of the [UN Scientific Advisory Board](#) in Berlin on 30 -31 January 2014.

AWARDS

Nominations are being accepted for the 2014 **Mahathir Science Award**. Relevant information can be found [here](#). Deadline: 15 April 2014.

ANNIVERSARIES



Founded in 1739, the [Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences](#) is celebrating its 275th Anniversary in 2014.

FEEDBACK / CONTACT

++ IAP News Bulletin ++
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 The deadline for contributions to the next issue of the IAP News Bulletin is **20 May 2014**.