Summary

1. VYA achievement in 2017 ................................................................. 1

2. VYA Activities .................................................................................. 2
   2.1 VYA Annual meeting .................................................................... 2
   2.2 VYA engagement with governmental institutions ......................... 2

3. Activity of VYA community ................................................................. 2
   3.1 Workshop on Microfluidics, Nanomaterials, and Point-of-Care in Healthcare for developing countries .............................................. 2
   3.2 Meeting of the Asian Young Academies on Science and Society: Challenges and Prospects .......................................................... 3

4. VYA Announcements .......................................................................... 3
   4.1 Operations Committee and Chair for 2018 ....................................... 3
   4.2 New VYA friends ........................................................................... 3
   4.3 New member application ................................................................. 3

5. Funding opportunities .......................................................................... 3

1. VYA achievement in 2017
   • VYA recruited 8 members, and 41 friends. With 9 bulletins and many news and posts on Facebook page, the total views of VYA website increased from a few thousands to more than 15,000.
   • VYA was presented at several national and international meetings, including:
     o The 3rd Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies (WWMYAs) in Johannesburg, South Africa on July 2017;
     o The Vietnam-Korea international joint symposium on advanced materials in Daejeon, Korea on August 2017;
     o The Workshop on Advanced Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology (WANN 2017) at Hanoi University of Science and Technology on August 2017;
     o Science leadership programme in Malaysia on September 2017;
   • A short news of VYA was published on “Tạp chí Y học Dự phòng” (Vietnam Journal of Preventive Medicine, VJPM) both in printout version (volume 27, issue 2) and on website. Details can be found here.
   • Dr. Tran Quang Huy (TQ Huy) became a member of Global Young Academy (GYA). The news of Dr. TQ Huy elected as member of GYA was featured widely in Vietnamese mainstream media as well as many online outlets: Dân trí, Báo mới, Nhân dân, HUS-VNU, Tiếng Phong, Thanh niên (The Youth), kenh14, sansangduhoc, baogialai, yan, and baoninhbinh.

Members and friends are encouraged to send updates for publication in VYA monthly newsletter by the 20th of each month
Vietnam Young Academy. http://vietnamyoungacademy.org, Email: info@vietnamyoungacademy.org
VYA Bulletin prepared by Prof. Nguyen Thi Kim Thanh, Dr. Bui Thanh Duyen and Dr Hanh Lam
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2. **VYA Activities**

2.1 **VYA Annual meeting**

**Annual General Meeting of VYA** held on January 8, 2018. There were 3 advisory board members, Prof. N. T.K. Thanh, Associate Prof. M. Dominik and Associate Professor Nguyen P. Tung; 5 VYA members, TQ Huy, Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh, Dr Bui Thanh Duyen, Dr Nguyen Duc Hoang and Dr Le Minh Hoa. We refined the constitution, voted for VYA Chair and Operations Committee, and discussed about VYA activities for coming years.

2.2 **VYA engagement with governmental institutions**

In January 2018, Prof Nguyen TK Thanh visited Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health to discuss about the collaboration with VYA in the future activities.

Professor Nguyen Thanh was discussing with Professor Chau Van Minh President of Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) and VAST senior management team about VYA's activities.

3. **Activity of VYA community**

3.1 **Workshop on Microfluidics, Nanomaterials, and Point-of-Care in Healthcare for developing countries**

Prof Nguyen TK Thanh is a mentor of a Vietnam-UK Workshop on Microfluidics, Nanomaterials, and Point-of-Care in Healthcare for developing countries sponsored.
3.2 Meeting of the Asian Young Academies on Science and Society: Challenges and Prospects

Prof Nguyen TK Thanh will give an invited talk the meeting of Asian Young Academies in Jerusalem from 11th – 13th Feb 2018. Dr T Q Huy also received an invitation to present VYA at this meeting. Details on the program can be found here.

4. VYA Announcements

4.1 Operations Committee and Chair for 2018

Congratulations to the VYA Operations Committee for 2018: Dr Hanh Lam, Dr Le Minh Hoa, Dr. Nguyen Duc Hoang and Dr Bui Thanh Duyenn

- Chair: Dr Hanh Lam
- New member recruitment: Dr. Nguyen Duc Hoang
- Manning VYA email account: Dr. Nguyen Duc Hoang
- Monthly Newsletter: Dr Bui Thanh Duyenn
- Registration of VYA in the UK (Dr. Le Minh Hoa and Prof. Nguyen TK Thanh), in Vietnam (Dr. Nguyen Duc Hoang and Prof. Nguyen TK Thanh)

4.2 New VYA friends

Welcome Nguyen Tri Dang to VYA friends’ list. Dang is from Nanyang Technical University, Singapore. He will be managing VYA’s Facebook for news and opportunity updates. We are extremely grateful for his voluntary service to bring the fast flow of funding news to Vietnamese researchers worldwide (Please check out our facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Vietnamyoungacademy)

4.3 New member application

VYA is seeking high quality application for joining VYA. We have four application cycles each year deadlines on January 31st, April 30th, July 31st and October 31st. The deadline for the next cycle of new membership application is April 30th 2018. Our application is available on our website.

5. Funding opportunities

- UCL Summer School

Every summer, UCL welcomes students from around the world to study for credit in the heart of London: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/study-abroad-ucl/summer-school

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Singapore NRF Fellowship Class of 2019. The SINGAPORE NRF FELLOWSHIP Call (CLASS OF 2019) is currently open for application. Each award provides a research grant of up to SGD 3 million, inclusive of general overheads over five years, to support projects that exhibit high likelihood of a research breakthrough.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The call is open to outstanding researchers of any nationality, in the early stage of their research careers, who preferably have completed a post-doctoral fellowship stint at a renowned university and are ready to take an independent research appointment in Singapore.
- Applicant must have completed his/her PhD degree in any discipline of science and technology OR in the field of Science of Learning (SOL) and is not holding a tenured position.
- Applicant must not be holding an Assistant Professor or equivalent position at a local research institution for more than 1 year at the point of submission (i.e. at grant call closing date of 20 March 2018).
- Applicant must not be a recipient of a similar early career award in Singapore.
- Applications must be submitted online through the new Integrated Grant Management System (IGMS) at https://researchgrant.gov.sg before 20 March 2018, 3pm.

This call will have two tracks:

- Applicants in all disciplines of science & technology (Engineering, Computer Sciences, including info-com technology & interactive digital media, Natural/Physical Sciences and Life Sciences).
- Applicants in the area of Science of Learning (SOL). The NRF SOL initiative seeks to develop a science-based understanding of the effectiveness of Singapore’s education methods, as well as develop new methods to realise better learning outcomes. Applicant’s proposals could be based on, but need not be limited to, research in the following priority areas:
  - Developing neuroscience-informed interventions for translation – This refers to the development of interventions built on existing related neuroscience knowledge.
  - Validation of cognitive theories or interventions with neuroscientific evidence – This refers to the corroboration of existing interventions/theories with the development of new neuroscience knowledge.
  - Development of platform technologies as tools to support scaling of interventions with neuroscientific evidence – This focuses on methods to scale up application of established intervention methods.

Evaluation and Selection Process:

- All valid applications received by NRF will be forwarded to the prospective host institution in Singapore for a first round of shortlisting.
- Applicants shortlisted during the first round of assessment will have their...
applications forwarded to the NRF Fellowship Evaluation Panel (FEP), an international panel comprising eminent international academics and technologists for a second round of shortlisting to determine the list of final candidates for consideration.

- Final shortlisted candidates for the Singapore NRF Fellowship, if not already based in Singapore, will be invited by NRF to Singapore in October 2018, for the final interview.
- The final shortlisted candidates are required to obtain a Letter of Support from their host institution of choice.
- The results of the final selection will be announced within a month from the final interview session.
- The NRF Fellowship application guide, factsheet and registration form are attached for your dissemination please. Queries can be directed to NRF_Fellowship@nrf.gov.sg.