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Dr Tran Quang Huy (first row, left) and other delegates at the 3rd Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies in Johannesburg, South Africa from 19th - 21st July 2017 (Photo: SAYAS)
1. KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Vietnamese Youth Academy (VYA) is opening a call for new applicants and membership renewals, the applications are available on VYA website, the deadline is 30th October 2017. VYA is non-paying fee membership organization, therefore, members are expected to contribute to its activities. Renewal is required for all members after their first year of their initial membership. All members admitted from 2014-2016, please apply for renewal.

- Dr Tran Quang Huy (Chair of VYA) presented VYA at the 3rd Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies (WWMYAs) in Johannesburg, South Africa from 19th to 21st July 2017. The 3rd WWMYAs was hosted by the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS) and co-organised by the Global Young Academy (GYA).

  - On the first day (19th July), there was the annual conference of young scientists of the SAYAS with the theme “Young Scientists’ Role in Science Advice”. Three main sessions, with more than ten talks, were represented by SAYAS members. The main topic was what young scientists could do to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

  - During the WWMYAs, there were 70 delegates representing for over 35 NYAs, young academy initiatives, GYA, and the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UN MGCY). The meeting focused on the theme “One Health: Health and Development in the context of an Urbanising Planet and Implications for Science Policy”. During two days of the meeting, there were 7 sessions covering various topics, but it mainly focused on the role of National Young Academies in achieving the UN’s SDGs. Six national young academies including Azerbaijan, Germany, Poland, Sri Lanka, Sweden, and South Africa have shared their experiences including their membership, activities, strength and challenges. Dr. Huy has contributed a poster entitled “The Role of Vietnamese Young Scholars for the One Health Approach in Vietnam”.

  - All participants have also discussed about the role of NYAs for national implementation, capacity building and policy setting in respect of SDGs 3, 8 and 11; activities, opportunities, barriers and the future impact of NYAs. How to engage young scientists? How can they shape the narrative of science policy as young scientists?

  - Dr. Huy also served as one of the note takers in the meeting, he was responsible for the poster session.

  - During the meeting, Dr. Huy has discussed with other young scientists in Asian countries to establish a network of Asian young scientists. The website of the network will be launched soon.

  - More importantly, Dr. Huy has discussed with Dr. Beate Weagner (Managing Director of
GYA), Assoc. Prof. Moritz Reide (Co-chair of GYA), Ms Anna-Maria (Project officers of GYA), Dr Sahal Yacoob (Co-chair of South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS), co-chair of the 3rd WWMYAs) about the possibility of VYA to host the 4th WWMYAs in Vietnam in 2019. The bid for the 4th WWMYAs will be published this autumn, and VYA needs a plan for finance, location, logistics and local organizing committee for the bid.

Dr. Huy and young scientists in Asian countries are discussing about the establishment of Asian young scientist network

- Two VYA operational committee meetings were organised on the 24th June and the 15th July 2017. The committee members have reviewed the recent activities and updated the plan for future growth of VYA. The meeting minutes are available to all VYA members and the advisory board.

2. **VYA ACTIVITES**

2.1 **Selection committee for renewal VYA membership** has been established

Current members of the advisory board: Prof Nguyen T. K. Thanh, Associate Professors Martin Dominick and Nguyen Phuong Tung will serve on this committee this year. Next year, the
Members who would have renewal of their memberships will be requested to serve on this committee.

2.2 Call for member for selection committee of new members

Members are encouraged to get involved in the selection of the new members. Please contact Dr Le Minh Hoa (Email: hoa.le-minh@northumbria.ac.uk), if you would like to serve on the committee by the 15th August 2017.

2.3 Invitation to join VYA webmaster team

Website is currently being re-designed by TQ Huy to enhance the VYA's e-Portal. Dr PV Tuan will also add user mapping on our website, so the user locations worldwide can be visualised, this will help in spreading VYA activities.

VYA needs someone who can regularly update website, please put your name forward by contact Dr Tran Quang Huy (Email: huytq.nihe@gmail.com) and Dr Phan Vuong Tuan (Email: vptuan@gmail.com) and Prof Nguyen TK Thanh (Email: ntk.thanh@gmail.com).

2.4 Promotion of VYA

- The special VYA bulletin (May 2017) has been added on the GYA Facebook and Twitter.
- 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.
- Dr Huy has discussed with Assoc. Prof. Le Anh Tuan – a friend of GYA, about the possibility to have a short introduction of VYA at the workshop on Advanced Nanomaterials & Nanotechnology-WANN 2017, and its proceeding. This event will be held from 14th to 15th August 2017, thanks to the 10th anniversary of the Advanced Institute for Sciences and Technology (AIST), Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST).
- Assoc. Prof Manh Huong Phan has discussed with Prof. Nguyen Duc Chien (President of Vietnam Materials Research Society) about the possibility to have a short introduction of VYA at the 10th Vietnam National Conference of Solid Physics and Materials Science (SPMS-2017), held from 19th – 21st October 2017, Hue city, Vietnam.

2.5 Call for Global Youth Academy (GYA) membership

The GYA Membership Call flyer is available for the first time in Vietnamese.

Applications are sought from young, independent scholars who combine the highest level of research excellence with a demonstrated passion for delivering impact. Key merits of the applications will be based on:
• Research fields: The call is open to all scholars working in any research-based discipline, including the sciences, medicine, engineering, social sciences, the arts and humanities.

• Excellence: Applicants must be able to demonstrate a high level of excellence in their discipline.

• Impact: The Global Young Academy is committed to a broad range of programmes around the world to support young scholars, promote science to a broad audience, engage in policy debate, and foster international and interdisciplinary collaboration. Applicants should provide evidence of interest or experience in one or more of these areas.

• Age/career point: Applicants should be in the early years of their independent careers. The majority of the GYA's members are aged 30-40 and the typical period from completion of a PhD or similar degree is 3-10 years. Applicants falling significantly outside these ranges may be considered under exceptional circumstances.

• Diversity: We encourage applications from all qualified candidates. Applications from women, researchers in the social sciences, arts and humanities, scholars working in government, industry, and non-governmental sectors, and from candidates in regions where the GYA has no current representation (see our Membership Map) are particularly welcome.

Online application process, important dates and relevant forms and guidance are available at: https://globalyoungacademy.net/call-for-new-members/

2.4 New VYA friends- A warm welcome to new VYA friends, we expect that many of you will apply to become a member of the VYA see the Highlight Section.

• Dr Hoang Van Tong, Vietnam Military Medical University, Vietnam
• Dr. Huynh Chan Khon, International University - Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam
• Dr. Nguyen Thanh Chung, National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), Vietnam
• Ms. Nguyen Phuong Mai, Greenway, Vietnam
• Dr. Ta Van Duong, King’s College London, UK
• Ms. Nguyen Thi Huyen Trang, National Foundation for Science and Technology Development (NAFOSTED), Ministry of Science and Technology, Vietnam
• Dr. Pham Ngoc Hung, Vietnam Military Medical University, Vietnam
• Dr. Nguyen Tuan Anh, Assistant Professor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong
• Dr. Nguyen Van Hao, Thai Nguyen University, Vietnam
• Dr. Dang Thuy Tram, Assistant Professor, Nanyang Technical University, Singapore
• Dr Dang Thanh Dung, Lecturer & Researcher at Biotechnology Department, Open University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
• Dr Hoang-Dung Tran, Nguyen-Tat-Thanh University, HCM City, Vietnam
• Dr Nguyen Duc Hoang, Head of Department of Microbiology, VNU-HCM-University of
3. ACTIVITIES OF VYA COMMUNITY

Dr Cao Cuong gave invited talk on ‘The Controlled Aggregation and Switchable Peroxidase-like Activity of Plasmonic Gold Nanoparticles for Clinical Diagnostics and Food Safety Analysis’ for Nanoparticles Theme organized and chaired by Prof. Nguyen T. K. Thanh at UK Colloids 2017 conference, 9th-12th July 2017, Manchester, UK.
Prof Nguyen TK Thanh gave invited talk at French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM) lab, Hospital Bichat in Paris in July 2017.

Dr Cao Cuong gave a talk and championed a discussion theme on ‘Plant Disease Diagnostics and Prevention’ at the ‘Defining Major Food Security Priorities for QUB - BIOTEC Partnerships’ workshop, 4th-5th July 2017, Bangkok, Thailand.
• Professor Nguyen TK Thanh visited Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training, Research Institutes and Other Universities to establish a PhD program between Vietnam and University College London (UCL). The work is sponsored by UCL Global Engagement Office.

• Prof Nguyen TK Thanh gave invited talk at ICMAT 9th International Conference on Materials for Advanced Technologies (http://icmat2017.mrs.org.sg/). She also carried out her Visiting Professorship at National University of Singapore in June 2017.

4. CALLS FOR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Funding opportunities

• **Prof Nguyen T. K. Thanh** is happy to receive applications for a very prestigious UCL Dean’s Scholarship in the area of nanotechnology for healthcare. The Dean’s Prize provides scholarships of up to the value of UCL student fees for postgraduate research students, primarily geared towards excellent Overseas students. Please contact Dr Nguyen T. K. Thanh (Email: ntk.thanh@ucl.ac.uk), if you have excellent Master degree in Chemistry/Biochemistry/Material Science. Due to large number of the applicants, only shortlisted candidate will be contacted.

• **Call for research proposals:** UK Space Agency’s International Partnership Programme under the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) informs a second call for research proposals about satellite technologies to address development problems (SDGs) in developing countries, including Vietnam. It is advised that the international partners, including research organisations, institutes, government organisation and NGOs team up with the UK-based organisations (either academia or industries) to apply for this programme)”. Deadline: 5th September 2017: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-funding-academic-community-and-educational

• **Call for Nominations:** Sanofi and the Institut Pasteur are pleased to announce the Sanofi - Institute Pasteur 2017 Awards. These Awards will honor and support two international scientists, whose outstanding research shows real progress in the life sciences that contributes to global public health, specifically in the following fields: IMMUNOLOGY, MICROBIOLOGY & INFECTION. The four scientists to be awarded should have published outstanding research as principal investigators in major scientific journals. There is the category of award: - Two International awards - € 120,000 each. More information available on our dedicated page: https://www.pasteur.fr/fr/sanofi-institutpasteur-awards.fr
Conferences and workshops

- A full list of conferences in Vietnam or elsewhere is available in VYA website
- **256th ACS National Meeting & Exposition Symposium** on "Detection of infectious diseases and toxin in food using nanoparticles", the 19th-23rd August 2018, Boston, USA, will be chaired by Prof. Nguyen TK Thanh and Dr Cao Cuong.

- IAP and TWAS are working with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to host an event in Trieste on 12th-15th September 2017. Information on the call for nominations to attend the workshop, "Policy and Diplomacy for Scientists: Introduction to Responsible Research Practices in Chemical and Biochemical Sciences", is available via: hxp://www.interacademies.net/2952/31277.aspx

- **The NAFOSTED Conference on Information and Computer Science (NICS)** is a series of scientific activities supported by the National Foundation for Science and Technology Development to build a durable, innovative and conducive environment for research activities at universities and institutes, improve research ability of young scientists and establish research groups that meet international standards. The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers from Vietnam and overseas in an academic forum to present and discuss recent advancements and future directions in the field of information and computer science. NICS 2017 will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam on 24th-25th November 2017, sponsored by IEEE, and hosted by University of Engineering and Technology, Vietnam National University, Hanoi.

- **Genomic Medicine 2017** - is a 2-day event co-organized by School of Biotechnology, Hochiminh International University-Vietnam National University and the Genome Institute of Singapore. The programme aims on high quality contributions to the application of Genomics Sciences to Medical Practice. Panel of speakers comes from across South East Asia to focus on topics of relevance to our region, including the application of Bioinformatics in Medicine and Drug Safety and Efficacy. This will be held on 17th and 18th August 2017 at the Hochiminh International University. Assoc. Prof Ly Le, a VYA friend, is a member of local chairs (http://www.saphire.sg/genomic-medicine-2017/).

Career and promotion opportunities

- **Nanofabrication Staff Scientist Position:** Staff Scientists at IST Austria pursue research projects together with professors, serving as collaborators with expertise normally not present within research groups. We are looking for a nanofabrication staff scientist who is interested in the field of nanoscience and takes the responsibility for running and developing recipes for a state of the art 100 keV electron beam lithography system in the newly built nanofabrication facility. The staff scientist will be associated with the nanofabrication facility, which provides their service for research groups on campus. The position is limited to five years, with the possibility of extension. Please submit your application online at https://apply.app.ist.ac.at/. More information at https://ist.ac.at/about-ist-austria/open-positions/staff-scientists/.
• **Postdoc position in signal transduction and antibiotic resistance** in Gram-positive bacteria in the lab of Chris Kristich, Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee WI, USA.

• **Postdoc position in host-pathogen interactions** in Barbara Kazmierczak’s laboratory at Yale University, USA.

• **Postdoctoral research position** at UCLA in population genetics in the lab of Dr. Kirk Lohmueller in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and the Department of Human Genetics at the University of California, Los Angeles, USA.

• **2 Post-doctoral positions in Targeted Nanotherapy for cancer**
The post-doctoral positions are funded for 12 or 24 months. The positions will be open in September 2017 or at the beginning of 2018, respectively. The post-doctoral positions may be extended depending on the acceptance of additional funding requests. Recruitment prospects at INSERM or CNRS. Applicants should submit curriculum vitae, a list of publications, a brief description of their research and the career goals to Véronique GIGOUX (veronique.gigoux@inserm.fr). [www.rttc-research.com](http://www.rttc-research.com)

• **A postdoc on Using low-frequency magnetic field and magnetic nanoparticles for the destruction of cancer cells**: setups, theory and experiments, Laboratoire de Physique et Chimie des Nano-Objets, Toulouse. The funding is for a duration of three years. It could be cut in renewable contracts of one year. The post-doc contract should start the 1st of November, 2017. Please send resume, publication list and motivation letter to Julian Carrey (julian.carrey@insa-toulouse.fr) before September, 15th, 2017.