

May 2020

Selection of Dr Myrtani Pieri to the Global Young Academy

Dear Prof George Gregoriou,

We are delighted to inform you of the selection of Dr Pieri, Assistant Professor from University of Nicosia, as a member of the Global Young Academy (GYA) from June 2020 until May 2025. Selection for the GYA is highly competitive, so we warmly congratulate Dr Pieri on this achievement.

The GYA is a prestigious international academy of early and mid-career researchers that is capped at 200 members. Our current membership comes from nearly 60 different countries and engages in research from the natural sciences to arts and humanities. Applicants are typically 3 to 10 years post-PhD and below the age of 40, with selection based on (i) demonstrated excellence in the field of research, and (ii) demonstrated commitment to improving the state of science and its links to broader society. As each member is appointed for a 5 year term, only 30-40 positions become available each year (selected from ~400 applicants). Thus, Dr Pieri is one of only a small proportion of excellent applicants from around the world to be selected.

Our members share research excellence and a passion about the role of science in creating a better world. The GYA has an international profile as “giving a voice to young scientists”. Involvement in our activities spans innovative interdisciplinary research through to influencing science policy and high-level science advice. Our focus on science and policy, on education and outreach, and on strengthening international networks of researchers has resulted in the GYA becoming a full member of the International Academies Partnership (IAP), which is the overarching body of the international (senior) science academies, in 2019. With its worldwide network and highly trained membership, the GYA has been called “the best bet on the global scientific leadership over the next 10 years”.

As a member of the GYA, Dr Pieri will have the opportunity to engage in new research collaborations, further develop leadership and communication skills, learn about diverse cultures, and contribute to the work of the GYA. This may involve representing the GYA at international events and engaging, for example, with presidents of universities and science academies, government ministers as well as with funding bodies and foundations. A specific major opportunity and commitment is the attendance of Dr Pieri at the Annual General Meeting and Conference each year (~5 days sometime between April and June). This will enable Dr Pieri to fully engage with the GYA and get the optimal benefit from the 5 year term. This year’s annual meeting will be conducted electronically in June, due to the current situation caused by COVID-19 (Coronavirus). During the annual meeting and throughout the year, members engage in international collaborations to influence international science policy, release impact and advice statements, and conduct innovative interdisciplinary research.

The GYA is led by a 11-member Executive Committee, elected from the membership, and supported by a Senior Advisory Board composed of outstanding senior scientists and science managers. The headquarters of the GYA, led by a Managing Director, is located at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, which has supported the GYA since its foundation in 2010. The GYA receives core funding from the German



GLOBAL YOUNG ACADEMY

Co-Chairs:

Connie Nshemereirwe (Uganda)

Koen Vermeir (France)

Managing Director:

Beate Wagner

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), and has received project-specific support from the IAP and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

We hope you are as delighted as we are to have Dr Pieri selected to be a member of the GYA. Having a member of the GYA in your organisation will enhance your international visibility and provide a unique avenue for global impact. In addition, the experiences in the GYA may provide skills and opportunities for local initiatives that enhance your organisation's profile. By supporting Dr Pieri to engage with the GYA, your organisation further demonstrates your support for developing the careers of early and mid-stage researchers, and provides recognition of the important role they can play in society and policy globally. Dr Pieri will also be in a position to explore possible synergies between your organisation's strategic goals and those of the GYA. Being a GYA member is a unique opportunity to strengthen the leadership skills of the next generation of science leaders and build a lasting global network, which will have benefits for the member and their organisation for many years.

The GYA is a working academy; members contribute throughout the year. Other organisations have supported this commitment in a variety of ways, such as allowing the member to attend the AGM, to complete some GYA work during work hours, or through financial support for travel costs. Previous members have described the outstanding positive impact GYA membership has had on their research, leadership skills, capacity for innovation, and overall career.

We hope you are able to find ways to support Dr Pieri to make the most of this unique opportunity.

Sincerely,

Dr Connie V. Nshemereirwe
Co-Chair
Global Young Academy

Dr Koen Vermeir
Co-Chair
Global Young Academy

Dr Beate Wagner
Managing Director
Global Young Academy