



VYA Monthly Bulletin

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1. Guest Article from a Fellow of Malaysia Chapter of American Chemical Society and Young Scientist Network of Academy Sciences Malaysia.....	2
2. Perspective from an overseas young Vietnamese scientist.....	3
3. VYA Activities	5
4. New members and Friends	6
5. Call for new member.....	6
6. Calls for ideas, opinions, views to improve VYA.	6
7. Funding news for meetings in Vietnam.....	7
7.1. EURAXESS ASEAN presents European Research Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Researchers in Vietnam	7
7.2. Vietnam-UK Workshop on "Microfluidics, Nanomaterials, and Point-of-Care in Healthcare for developing countries".....	7
7.3. Southeast Asia Researcher Links workshop on "Data Analytics for Future Cities Research".....	7
7.4 International conference of intellectual women, Ha Noi	8
8. News on Young Academies around the world	8
9. Science at School	9
10. Experience sharing corner	9

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, Dr Le Hoang Sinh and Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh



1. Guest Article from a Fellow of Malaysia Chapter of American Chemical Society and Young Scientist Network of Academy Sciences Malaysia



JitKang Lim is currently a Full Professor of Chemical Engineering at the School of Chemical Engineering, University Sains Malaysia (USM). He graduated with a doctoral degree in Chemical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in 2009 under the sponsorship of Dowd Fellowship. His current research interest is focusing on the transport behaviors and engineering applications of magnetic nanoparticle under low field gradient. In addition to his research career, JK is also actively engaged in STEM development of young students in Malaysia. Working as an active member of both Malaysia

Chapter of American Chemical Society (ACS) and Young Scientist Network of Academy Sciences Malaysia (YSN-ASM), JK involved in various outreach programs with a focus on advocating science as an interesting and promising career to the Malaysian youth.

“Upon my return to USM, I found out that the local research community, especially young scientist, were lacking of a platform for networking purpose and also a proper channel to communicate science among them. In those years, most young scientists in Malaysia were surviving the academic world by their own with very less support. Even though there were quite a number of professional society, but, most of them are focusing on different issues. In 2014, I joined YSN-ASM which composed of a group of very energetic and enthusiastic young people from different background in science. It is only after joining the YSN-ASM, I have finally realized that the power of having like-minded people around.

The obvious benefit of joining YSN-ASM is the opportunity to meet potential collaborator with the same research interest. I have engaged in numerous stimulating discussions about science with other YSN-ASM members which leading to the development of new research ideas. Moreover, it is amazing how fast the information can circulate out within this young community. Being a member of YSN-ASM, I am always being notified with the new grant opening and first-hand information on the changes of research policies. It is also not unusual for the YSN-ASM members to share out various opportunities, such as book chapter writing, invited talks, fellowship invitation, etc. Getting to know his peers through YSN-ASM has also broaden up my human network. Through this circle of friends, I have managed to help my recent graduate student(s) to get new job offer and also getting good research candidate for my research program.



In addition to YSN-ASM, I am also an active member of ACS Malaysia Chapter. Three other members and I co-founded this chapter in 2014 after attending a BOOST ACS workshop in Thailand. Playing a leadership role in professional society is never an easy task. As the founding chair of the ACS Malaysia, I have received wonderful support from all other members, which contributed to the collective growth of the chapter. Most of the active members of the chapter are below 40 years old and sharing the same passion of getting science beyond class room border. Together with ACS members, I have organized various outreach activity mainly on promoting chemistry as a fun subject. All these outreach activities not only helping me to reflect upon the true value of education but also keeping me to be more alert on the societal expectations on R&D outcomes. In other words, it is a good learning and self-discovery process.

In fact, I have benefited tremendously from young professional society, so, it is my responsibility to share this experience out too". JitKang Lim

2. Perspective from an overseas young Vietnamese scientist

Hanh Lam grew up in Vinh Long province. She went to college at Nong Lam University. In 2008, Hanh went to the United States for PhD study, where she has been exposed to a different education system and culture. While studying abroad, Hanh has been helping many friends and younger colleagues in scholarship applications, helping new coming Vietnamese students to settle down in the new place (Cornell University), and hosting many visits from Vietnamese professors to Cornell University. Hanh joined VYA as a member in 2017 with the hope to contribute to supporting Vietnamese and Vietnam science and education. She hopes that young Vietnamese can get benefits from VYA's activities and contribute to VYA to help more people.

"The first thing I want to point out is that, regardless of where we are, what nationality we take, we are Vietnamese. It could be the working condition, personality, ambition, career goals, family matter and many other factors, that one wishes to stay abroad for long term or short term. But all of us were born in Vietnam, embraced Vietnam culture; we loved and cherished the culture, our friends and our hometown. When we see Vietnamese, we see ourselves, when we come back to the country, we feel like home. We would like to be called Vietnamese (nguoi Viet), not "Viet-Kieu", not anything else.

VYA has been maintaining balance between overseas and Vietnam-based members. If we



VIETNAM YOUNG ACADEMY

look at the number of alumni, there are 8 overseas members and 7 Vietnamese based members; if we look at the current members, there are 3 overseas members (Hanh, Duyen, Hoa) and 4 Vietnam based members (Hung, Sinh, Huy, Hoang). We would love to have a chair who lives in Vietnam. Our first chair, Dr Tran Quang Huy is working at the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology. We are brainstorming ways to have more Vietnam based members.

For Vietnamese colleagues working abroad, doing activities for VYA is professionally volunteering work, as we spend time to help others, and needless to say we give more than we take. It is common to see overseas members wanting to contribute back to Vietnam without asking much as we are far from our hometown, we love and respect the people and the country; however, it is more often to hear from Vietnam based people asking what they will get from joining VYA, instead of what they can contribute to community. We understand that, we know that the Vietnam based people need to optimize their success with more limited resources than overseas people, so we don't criticize them. We hope that Vietnam based people will appreciate our effort and join us in this mission.

VYA is giving more priority to Vietnam based people to go to conferences to represent VYA and meet science leaders. In 2017, the only person representing VYA to go to different international conferences was TQHuy. This year, although I am a chair, we are trying to encourage Vietnamese based members to participate international conferences. Unfortunately we don't have funding to support a member to go to Thailand this May 2018 for the 8th GYA conference, however we nominated a new member from Duy Tan University.

VYA platform is quite new to Vietnam, yet if we don't start somewhere, how can we ever get to anywhere? I highly appreciate the work that Prof Thanh and many others have put into this to, at least, get us started a good platform for young scholars.

Overseas scientists often have to work extra hours to compete with native people, and overcome many challenges such as language, culture, etc. We are spending time for the academy purely because we love Vietnam"



3. VYA Activities

VYA monthly OC meeting was held on Feb 11, 2018. In the meeting, OC has discussed on VYA operation and activities. The amended VYA constitution has been discussed and voted which is available on VYA website.

Dr. Bui Thanh Duyen presented at Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) conference in Washington DC. After 15 years of operation, VEF has helped nearly 700 Vietnamese students advance their further education in the US, which makes the foundation becoming an important conduit for fostering mutual understanding of people between two countries and hence strengthening diplomatic relations. VEF fellows, scholars and other VEF Alumni have contributed to the development of science and technology in both Vietnam and the United States. The conference at Washington DC aims to connect and grow these contributions.



Photo: Dr. Bui Thanh Duyen presented at VEF's conference in Washington DC

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, Dr Le Hoang Sinh and Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh



Simon Grimley is the focal point of the EURAXESS ASEAN, based in Bangkok. The EURAXESS is planning to run the science camp event in Indonesia this Nov and would like to share this idea to the VYA. Mr Grimley will meet Tran Quang Huy, immediate past Chair of the VYA, who will present VYA in Hanoi April 2018 to learn about Science Camp idea.

Associate Professor Nguyen Duc Hoang, and Dr Tran Quang Huy, member of VYA are on the organizing committee of the 1st International Conference on Microbiology and One Health (<http://moh-vn.com/>) on September 19-22, 2018, which are organized by VNUHCM-University of Science and National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology. VYA is actively in helping organizing this meeting.

4. New members and Friends

Dr. Le Hoang Sinh and Dr. Nguyen Quang Hung were admitted as new members of VYA. Dr. Minh Cuong Duong became VYA's friend. Dr. Le Hoang Sinh is joining the Bulletin editing team. Dr. Nguyen Quang Hung is joining the VYA website editing team. Congratulations and welcome the new members and friends.

5. Call for new member

We are currently inviting high quality applicants for joining VYA. There are four application deadlines each year, which are on January 31st, April 30th, July 31st and October 31st.

The deadline for the next application round is on April 30th 2018. The application form and guideline are available on our VYA [website](#).

6. Calls for ideas, opinions, views to improve VYA.

Please send in your suggestions how to make VYA more relevant to Vietnamese researchers in Vietnam. VYA is grown by Young Vietnamese Scholars and for Young Vietnamese Scholars and Vietnam. We are looking for volunteers to translate VYA website and Bulletins to Vietnamese. VYA is very fortunate in being able to rely on the support and dedication of its members, advisory board and friends, and we very much appreciate that you have given your time and effort so generously.



7. Funding news for meetings in Vietnam

7.1. *EURAXESS ASEAN presents European Research Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Researchers in Vietnam*

- Time: 14h00 – 16h30 on Tuesday 17 April 2018
- Location: Room 222, Building C1, Hanoi University of Science and Technology, No.1 Dai Co Viet Road, Hanoi
- Organizers: EURAXESS ASEAN, Hanoi University of Science and Technology
- Participants: Doctoral candidates, post-doctoral researchers and established researchers of all disciplines and all nationalities. Representatives of university research offices or international relations offices are very welcome.
- Free of charge
- Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/euraxess-asean-information-session-on-the-marie-skodowska-curie-msca-individual-fellowships-tickets-44691449328>

7.2. *Vietnam-UK Workshop on “Microfluidics, Nanomaterials, and Point-of-Care in Healthcare for developing countries”*

- Time: 27-29 June 2018
- Location: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- Organizers: University of Sheffield, UK and International University- National University Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- Participants: early career researchers from the UK
- Travel expenses funded
- Deadline [online registration form](#) before **15st April 2018**. Successful applications will be announced **by 30th April 2018**.
- Contact: Dr Cecile Perrault (c.perrault@sheffield.ac.uk)
- Website: <http://csc.hcmiu.edu.vn/bmeconf/bme2018/index.php?module=viewcontent&id=31>

7.3. *Southeast Asia Researcher Links workshop on “Data Analytics for Future Cities Research”*

- Time: 11-13 July 2018
- Location: Danang, Vietnam
- Organisers: Aston University, UK and VN-UK Institute for Research and Executive Education (VNUK), University of Danang, Vietnam
- Participants: early career researchers from the UK and Southeast Asian countries
- Travel and accommodation expenses are funded
- Deadline [online registration form](#) before **15st April 2018**. Successful applications

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, Dr Le Hoang Sinh and Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh



VIETNAM YOUNG ACADEMY

will be announced by **30th April 2018**.

- Contact: Dr He Yulan (y.he9@aston.ac.uk) and Dr Dang Duc Long (long.dang@vnuk.edu.vn)
- Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/da4futurecities/home>

These works were supported by Researcher Links workshop grants, under the Newton Programme Vietnam partnership. The grants are funded by the UK Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and delivered by the British Council. For further information, please visit www.newtonfund.ac.uk.

7.4. International conference of intellectual women, Ha Noi

Time: 18-19 October 2018

Location: Ha Noi

8. News on Young Academies around the world

- **Global Young Academy (GYA)** Annual General meeting and Conference 'Forever Young? Sustainable and healthy longevity through science and technology', 7-11 May 2018 in Pattaya, Thailand. Associate Professor Martin Dominik, member of VYA advisory board, Dr Tran Quang Huy, immediate past chair will attend this important meeting.
- **Israel Young Academy** first newsletter is available from this link:
<http://www.young.academy.ac.il/SystemFiles/14-3-2018-1.pdf>

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, Dr Le Hoang Sinh and Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh

© Copyright 2018, Vietnam Young Academy. Please acknowledge VYA, if content is reused.



9. Science at School

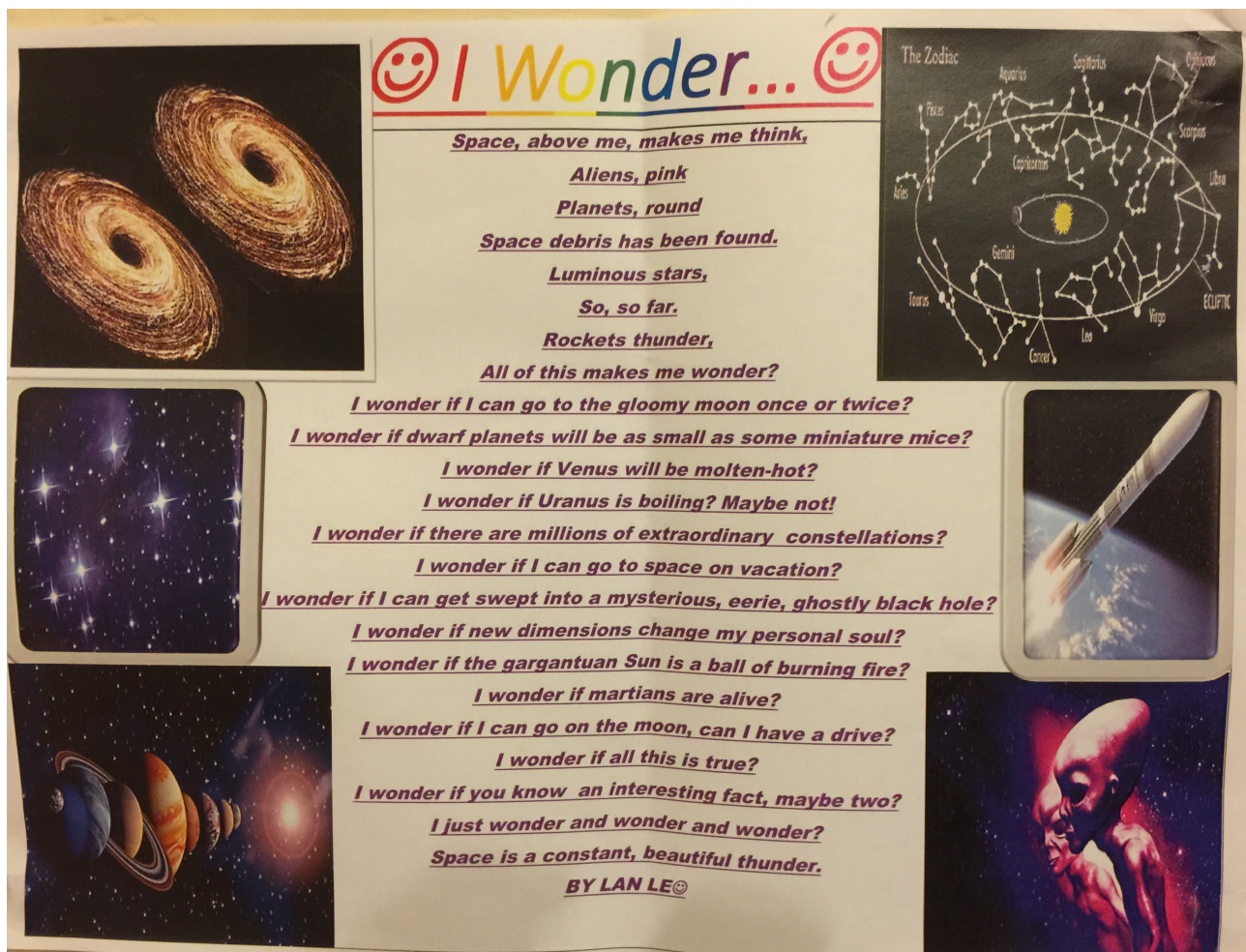


Photo: The poster and poem about astrophysics by Lan Le at the age of nine. Reproduced with permission from Lan Le.

10. Experience sharing corner

Applying to faculty position in the United States: Chalktalk

In faculty job interview in the US, the chalk talk is an important part. The chalk talk usually is 45 mins to an hour long with a group of 4-5 Faculty in the search committee within the department with or without a faculty from other department. In the chalk talk, the candidate has to go into detail on what their specific plans for each year in 5-6 years of tenure track as well as the plan to maintain the research beyond 5 years. Usually the candidates will use the

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, Dr Le Hoang Sinh and Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh



white board with drawing to explain their ideas. Some places may allow minimal number of PowerPoint slides, but it is less common. Below are tips and questions for chalk talk preparation (contributors: postdocs and faculty at the University of California, Santa Cruz, USA).

1) What is the big question your work asks and why should the audience care? The big challenge is how to frame your question. You've done good work to get this far, but you need to work at making your work broadly accessible. Keep working on the pitch and eventually it clicks

2) How do you propose to answer that question?

- There are a lot of commonalities between giving a good chalk talk and writing a good set of specific aims for a grant. Set up a big question that's important, identify gaps in our knowledge, and propose experiments to fill those gaps
- **Make sure that the experiments proposed answer the question.** Be sure that your experiments answer the big question and drive field forward. Show your work is important, innovative, and fundable.

3) Why are you the perfect person to answer that question and the department the right place?

4) Can you distill your future lab's work into one punchy sentence?

5) How will you fund the work?

6) What are the first grad student/undergrad/postdoc projects?

To do:

- Set up your future lab's questions and approaches clearly, answer questions succinctly and clearly.
- Ask if the audience wants more detail.

Not to do:

- **Don't save important info for the end**, because you might not get there.
- Don't bring up any areas, which you are not prepared to go into. It's like a loose thread and people will start pulling on it.

Note that some chalk talks want focused discussions on one grant, going into details of each aim, others want big picture "how will this work transform the field."

Finally, mastering these points takes a ton of practice, self-reflection, and requires overcoming doubt. Candidates should simulate the toughest possible chalk talk, and learned



VIETNAM YOUNG ACADEMY

what elements worked. Another important point was giving practices to diverse audiences. There might not be “one perfect” chalk talk, but thinking about how Department wants to implement and maximize value is really critical.



VIETNAM YOUNG ACADEMY

We're on the Web!

<http://vietnamyoungacademy.org/>

New member application

We are currently seeking high quality applicants for joining VYA. There are four application cycles each year. The application deadlines are on every January 31st, April 30th, July 31st and October 31st.

The deadline for the next application round is on April 30th 2018. The application form and guideline are available on our [website](http://vietnamyoungacademy.org/).

Congratulations to **Dr. Bach Tran** the fourth Vietnamese (after Prof Nguyen TK Thanh, Dr Ngo Van Thanh and Dr Tran Quang Huy) to become member of GYA.

<https://agm2018.globalyoungacademy.net/>

- **17 April 2018:** EURAXESS ASEAN presents European Research Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Researchers in Vietnam, Ha Noi.
- **27-29 June 2018:** Vietnam-UK Workshop on “Microfluidics, Nanomaterials, and Point-of-Care in Healthcare for developing countries”, Ho Chi Minh City.
- **11-13 July 2018:** Southeast Asia Researcher Links workshop on “Data Analytics for Future Cities Research”, Da Nang.
- **18-19 October 2018:** International conference of intellectual women, Ha Noi.

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, Dr Le Hoang Sinh and Dr Lam Ngoc Hanh

© Copyright 2018, Vietnam Young Academy. Please acknowledge VYA, if content is reused.