YATSI
Young Academy of Technology, Science, and Innovation

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A Danish Technical Academy for Early-Career Professionals (ECPs)

- **Why?** General interest in enhancing engagement between “young” scientists and researchers working in both academia & industry
- Bottom-up initiative (ECP-driven with ~40 members within 6–8 years)
- Affiliation with a “senior” academy, but otherwise mostly operated autonomously
- Third-party sponsorship (approx. 150k EUR/year)

- **Motivation # 1** Desire to build more (and new) bridges between diverse set of ECPs working in both higher education & industrial settings
- **Motivation # 2** Professional network — not only for Danish ECPs — but importantly also inclusive towards large body of internationals working in the technical and natural sciences across DK
- **Motivation # 3** Two-way exchange of ideas & initiatives between industrial partner organisations & basic research groups from within academia
Young Academy of Denmark

• Established in 2011
• Independent unit under the main academy: Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters
• Member of:
  • SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies)
  • YASAS (Young Academies Science Advice Structure)
  • ENYA (European National Young Academies)
  • Nordic-Baltic Network of Young Academies
• Main raison d’être is to bring together young scientists (usually assistant to associate professor level) from all branches of science

• Agenda:
  • To strengthen basic research and interdisciplinary exchange
  • To play a role in the political landscape & amplify voice of young scientists in the public debate
  • To unite science & society through, e.g., outreach activities
Meetings & Academy Structure

• Meetings in Copenhagen once a month at the premises of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters (incl. external speaker from, e.g., research politics or Danish media)
• Meetings & activities are arranged by DUA members and/or its executive committees
• Administrative support from the main academy
• Financial support from the Carlsberg Foundation

• Three standing committees:
  • Science/Research Politics
  • Dissemination of Science
  • Interdisciplinary Collaboration
Research Environment of the Year 2022

Junior researchers can now nominate their research environment for the Danish Young Academy's Research Environment of the Year 2022 award and win DKR 10,000 for an academic or social event.

Good research environments foster better research. At the Danish Young Academy, we know how important a good research community is for young researchers’ talent development. For this reason, we have launched an award that recognizes the importance of good research environments for scientists’ and scholars’ work, performance and well-being. Our aim is to inspire a conversation about what characterizes a good research environment. You can nominate your research environment for the Research Environment of the Year 2022 award. The prize is DKR 10,000 for an academic or social event together with your research environment.

Who can nominate a research environment?
To nominate your research environment for the award, you must be at least two or more researchers at the academic level of master student, PhD student, postdoc or assistant professor and employed at a Danish research institution.

How do we assess the nominated research environments?
We find it particularly important that young researchers receive supervision and have opportunities for development. There are several ways of supporting these aims. For example, a good research environment may foster excellence and creativity in research, it may allow for the testing of new ideas, and it may promote collaboration and support the well-being and mental health of all members of the community. We look forward to hearing what a good research environment means to you.

How do we define a “research environment”?
- It may be a research group with a supervisor and two or more PhD students
- It may take on a horizontal or vertical structure
- It may be a digital and/or physical environment

Call for Research Environment of the Year 2022

Academy Activities

Public debate @ Folkemødet (‘The People’s Meeting’) 2021

Forskningsfriheden i Danmark er under pres

Det Ung Akademi

Forskningsfriheden er under stignende pres fra politikere, erfarenheds- og interessegrupper og øvrige ledere på universitetet. Det er afgørende, at vi vender den udvikling med konkret tilbagetænkning for at sikre forskningsfriheden.

KRONIKEN

FORSKNINGSFRIHEDEN er nu i fare. Hvorfor? Politikerne, forsknings- og interessegrupper har alle de sidste fire år været på kritik af universitetets forskningsfrihed. Her er fem grunde til, hvorfor forskningsfriheden nu er i fare.

1. Politikerne trenger forskningsfriheden

Det er udfordrende at have frihed til at udforske, indenfor en videnskabelig fagområde, og at ikke være påpresset af institutioner.

2. Færre forskningsfundater

Forskningsfriheden er også under press, da flere af de vigtigste forskningsfond er blevet nedlagt.

3. Mangel på finansielle ressource

Finansiel stabilitet er vigtigt for forskningsfriheden, da de fleste aktører har inddraget sig i denne del af aktiviteten.

4. Folkemøde

Folkemødet, der blev afholdt på Nyhavn i december, bidrog til at øge blikket på forskningsfriheden.

5. Internationale forhold

Forskningsfriheden er også under press i det internationale samfund, hvor der er behov for at holde op med forskningsfriheden.

I anden artikel: Forskningsfriheden - er det i fare?

Politikeren, der har været på kritik af forskningsfriheden, har oplevet en revolution i den videnskabelige samfund i de seneste år. Her er fem grunde til, hvorfor forskningsfriheden nu er i fare.

1. Forskningsfriheden er under pres på grund af politikeren, der har været på kritik af forskningsfriheden.

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Membership Model

- Members are admitted once a year – a membership lasts for 5 years
- 7–9 members admitted yearly with steady-state of approx. 40 members in total
- Members are elected based on application/motivation & scientific excellence
- It furthermore remains a priority to have a balanced representation between scientific disciplines, universities, genders, and academic/research profiles
**YATSI** — Young Academy of Technology, Science, and Innovation

- New academy to be launched in 2023
- Independent academy unit loosely affiliated with the main body: *Danish Academy of Technical Sciences*
- Same membership model as *Young Academy of Denmark*, but English as lingua franca & alternating meeting venues across DK
- Major focus on bringing together ECPs exclusively from the *technical & natural sciences*, working in both higher education and industry
- Intention is furthermore to advocate for stronger funding in support of science & innovation as a *driver for economic growth* in DK (and EU)

**Agenda:**
- To strengthen the *professional exchange* between ECPs — not only in academia — but also within industry
- To unite *science & industry*
Main differences/interplay between **YATSI** & **Young Academy of Denmark**

**Young Academy of Denmark**
- All scientific disciplines
- Royal Danish Academy of Sciences & Letters
- Science & society
  - Interdisciplinarity, public dissemination, and general science/research politics

**YATSI**
- Technical & natural sciences + industry
- Danish Academy of Technical Sciences
- Science & industry
  - Entrepreneurship, innovation, industrial adaption of academic basic research

An academy is what its members makes it.