

The Young Academy of Europe (YAE)



ERC Workshop, Visegrad Group Academies Forum
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27th May 2022

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YAE - what it is



- Pan-European initiative of outstanding early-career researchers for networking, scientific exchange, and science policy
- YAE fellows **demonstrate leadership** (are young principal investigators, max. 12 years after PhD), have **international experience** (at least 1 year foreign mobility), their research is recognised at national and international levels (**excellence**), and have an **interest in science policy**
- Currently 171 fellows and 110 alumni
- **Active recruitment from the region**



YAE 2021-2022 Board

- YAE Board
- No administrative support
- Charity, but no external funding



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YAE - what it does



- Science for policy (e.g. participation in European scientific advice, SAPEA+, YASAS)
- Policy for science (e.g. work closely with Initiative for Science in Europe – ISE – for open science, researcher evaluation and careers, the YAE is involved in the core writing group drafting the European research assessment reform)
- Networking (among members and with senior academics from e.g. Academia Europaea)
- Science communication (e.g. online symposium/webinars, Science Outreach task force)
- Interdisciplinary exchange (among our members and e.g. Transdisciplinary Research task force)
- Equality, diversity and inclusion (unconscious bias declaration, CALIPER grant, EDI task force)



Work-life balance



nature

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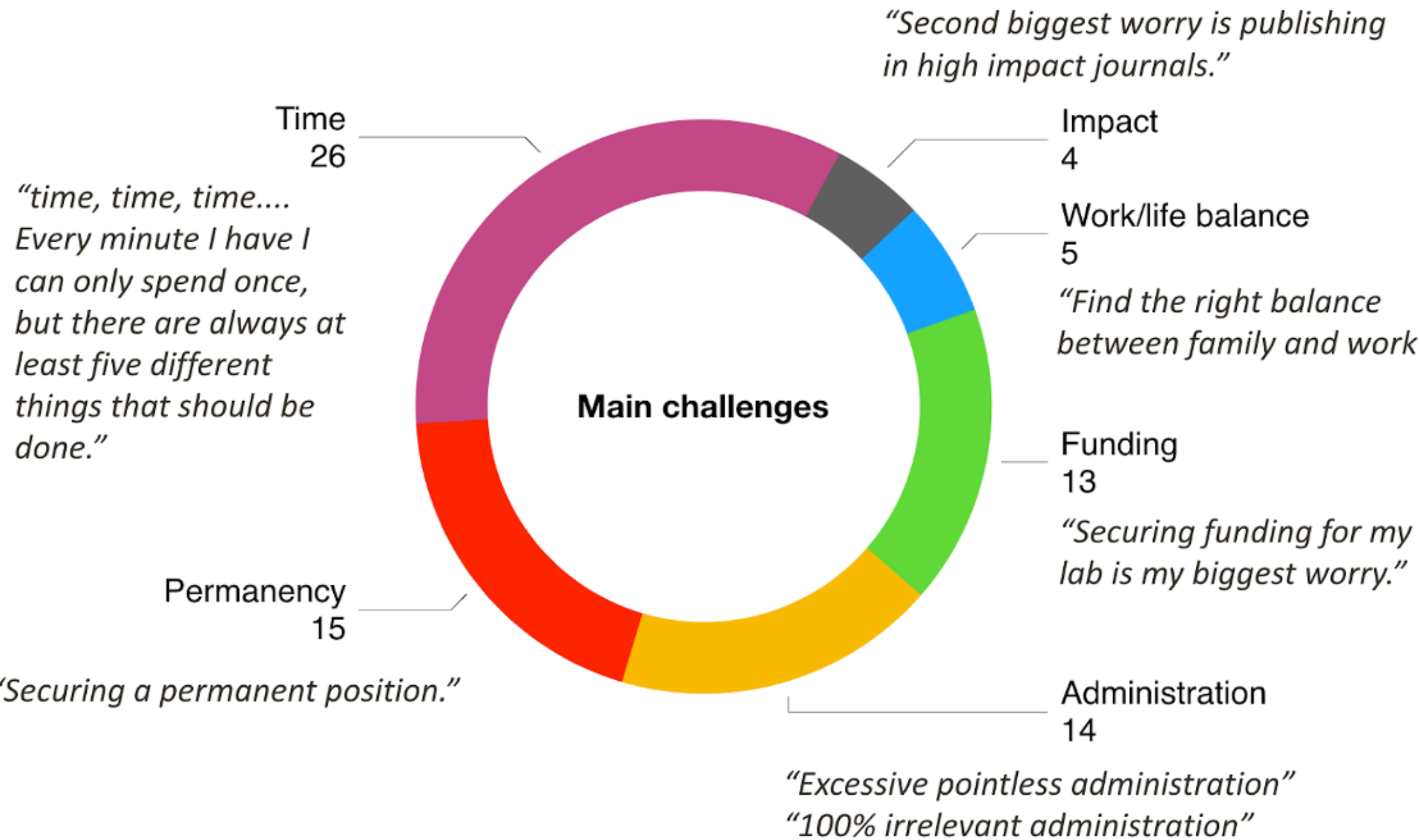
nature > career column > article

CAREER COLUMN | 17 June 2019

‘I’ll work on it over the weekend’: high workload and other pressures faced by early-career researchers

Stress and long working hours are regrettably common among early-career researchers, reveals a survey by the Young Academy of Europe.

Toma Susi, Shaul Shalvi & Mangala Srinivas



Impact of COVID-19 pandemic



nature

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CORRESPONDENCE | 07 April 2020

Support early-career researchers for post-pandemic prospects

Arild Husby ✉ & Gemma Modinos

Need for grant/deadline extensions (if possible funded extensions)

nature

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CAREER FEATURE | 15 March 2021

Pandemic burnout is rampant in academia

Remote working, research delays and childcare obligations are taking their toll on scientists, causing stress and anxiety.

Virginia Gewin



Impact of COVID-19 pandemic



YAE Survey: Edyta Swider-Cios, Katalin Solymosi, Mangala Srinivas

- June to October 2020
- Different fields and multiple countries in Europe
- Roughly half were members of a Young Academy
- Aim: To better understand the impact of pandemic-related lockdowns and associated relief efforts on them

nature

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CAREER COLUMN | 15 July 2021 | Correction 19 July 2021

Why science needs a new reward and recognition system

Researchers with children or carer roles have struggled more than others during the pandemic, amplifying existing inequalities, argue Edyta Swider-Cios and colleagues.

Edyta Swider-Cios , Katalin Solymosi & Mangala Srinivas



Impact of COVID-19 pandemic



YAE Survey: Edyta Swider-Cios, Katalin Solymosi, Mangala Srinivas

KEY FINDINGS

1. Reconciling work obligations with childcare responsibilities was particularly challenging
2. Stress levels increased in comparison to pre-pandemic times
3. Academic scientist-mothers appeared to have been hit harder than their male or non-parent counterparts
4. Some people found the lockdowns beneficial for their productivity



Impact of COVID-19 pandemic



YAE Survey: Edyta Swider-Cios, Katalin Solymosi, Mangala Srinivas

CONCLUSIONS

- Blanket extensions have limited impact, and may only strengthen already existing inequalities among early-career researchers
- Working from home has allowed extra flexibility and increased representation at online conferences
- Call for accelerating the development of new ways to recognise and reward academic researchers - researchers should be appraised on their efforts and progress in light of their personal circumstances



Impact of COVID-19 pandemic



Jean-Pierre Bourgignon: Act now or face a lost generation of researchers (due to COVID)

Europe supporting young researchers in times of uncertainty

4th Gago Conference on European Science Policy

A joint organization of Ciencia Viva and Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE)

June 13, 2022, Brussels (Permanent Representation of France)



THE GAGO
CONFERENCES
ON EUROPEAN SCIENCE POLICY

<https://www.cienciaviva.pt/gagoconf/4th-edition/>

Science policy



- July 2022: Euroscience Open Forum
- Keynote by Gemma Modinos (chair): **“Off the beaten track: new paths for academic careers”**
- Two symposia:
 - 1) **“The Chair: Fact or Fiction? Addressing the challenges faced by women leaders in academia”**
proposed by YAE, Academia Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub and CALIPER
 - 2) **“Opening alternative academic career paths – breaking bottlenecks and existing norms that perpetuate precarity”**
proposed by YAE and ICoRSA (International Consortium of Research Staff Associations)



ESOF 2022 LEIDEN 13-16
EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM JULY
CROSSING BORDERS, ENGAGED SCIENCE, RESILIENT SOCIETIES

Science Outreach



- From Jan 2022: 10th anniversary YAE seminar series, once a month with 3 YAE member presentations
- Separate talks are also available later on the YouTube channel of the YAE



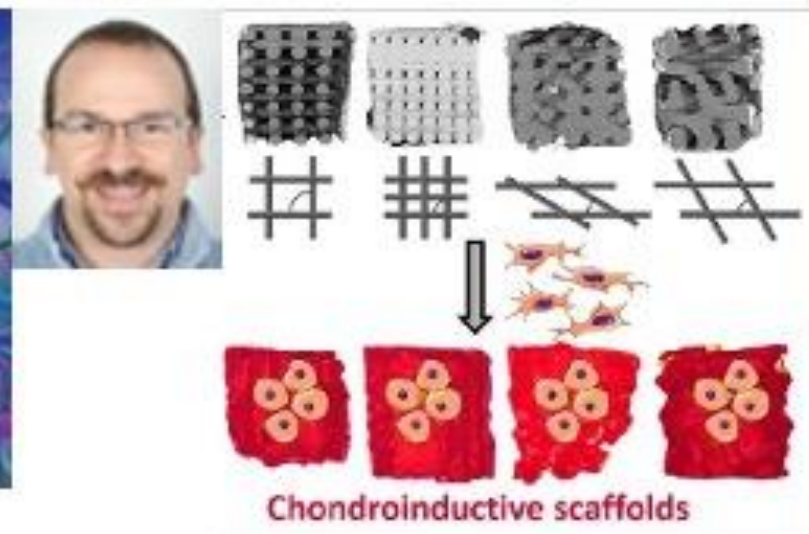
PLEASE JOIN THE YOUNG ACADEMY OF EUROPE'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE SERIES on **21 February 9:30-10:30 CET**
More details and link to (free) registration: <https://yacadeuro.org/the-yae-10-year-anniversary-lecture-series/>



Andreas H. Laustsen-Kiel:
Snakebite envenoming and antivenom



Valeria Gazzola:
The neural bases of empathy and (pro-)social behaviour – evidence from rodents to humans



Lorenzo Moroni:
Biofabrication for regenerative medicine



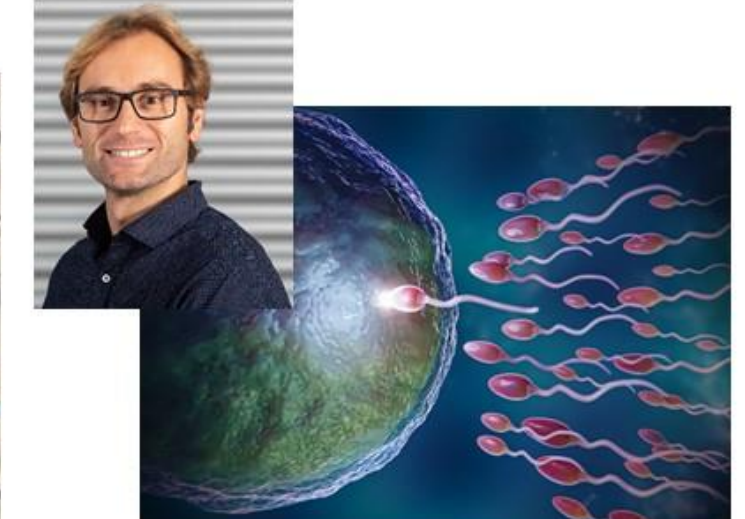
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Panos Papadimitratos:
Towards a Trustworthy Internet of Things



Cristina Blanco Sío-López:
Bridging Temporalities and Human Mobility Rights in Contemporary History



Marc Yeste:
Do Sperm Have any Role Beyond Fertilisation?

VIEWPOINTS, Junior Sections of FEBS Societies

The Young Academy of Europe: 10 years supporting science advice and policy

The Young Academy of Europe, an independent network of new principal investigators across Europe, celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. On this post they list key achievements from a decade of making the voice of European young scholars heard for science advice and policy.

Published Feb 28, 2022



Gemma Modinos, Katalin Solymosi & Anna Kuppuswamy
3 contributors

Thank you for your attention!

