YAE Survey

Created with the help of Springer Nature

Web-based using Nature platform at springernature.eu.qualtrics.com

Launched in late Jan 2018, promoted to YAE members, other Young Academies

26 answered only first question
-> discarded from stats

11 more didn’t quite finish
+ 93 full answers

104 responses
Demographics

56 ERC grantees
+20 with 4+ year grants

70 YAE members
+13 other YAs

31% female (33%)
66% male (67%)

67% have children

26% LS (25%)
46% PE (50%)
16% SH (25%)
10% multiple

Highest position shown:
PI > research scientist
any Prof. > PI

(PI: non-professor with independent funding)

Other: CEO, 3 x Research director/VP, research manager

Position (highest)

Full Prof.
36

Assoc. Prof.
31

Ass. Prof.
10

Postdoc / Staff
2

Other
5

PI
20

Other: CEO, 3 x Research director/VP, research manager
Tenure

Understanding tenure requirements

- Very easy: 12
- Quite easy: 22
- Neutral: 21
- Not very easy: 19
- Not at all easy: 15
- I don't know: 11
Working hours

https://www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/articles/10.1038/nj7656-175a
Team size & other activities

- **Outlier**: 10,000 (!)

**# people under supervision**

- MSc/PhD tribunals: 84
- Organising conferences: 78
- Mentoring: 76

Other activities:

- Editorial boards: 62
- University committees: 61
- Other committees: 59
- Other: 18

**# reviews per year**

- 0
- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- >15
Travel & outreach

- Promoting your research:
  - Conferences: 94
  - Networking: 54
  - Social media: 57
  - Blogging: 17
  - Other: 12
  - None: 2

- # conferences per year:
  - 0: 0
  - 1-3: 40
  - 4-6: 30
  - 7-9: 10
  - ≥10: 0

- # other international travel:
  - 0: 0
  - 1-3: 20
  - 4-6: 30
  - 7-9: 20
  - ≥10: 0
Stress

Stress level (%)

- Average
- Worst ever

Sources of stress

- Other: 45%
- Colleagues: 50%
- Lack of funding: 42%
- Lack of career opportunities: 36%
- Personal issues: 13%
- Family issues: 33%
- No stress: 2%

Total: 100%
Main challenges

"Excessive pointless administration"
"100% irrelevant administration"
"time, time, time....
Every minute I have I can only spend once, but there are always at least five different things that should be done."

"Securing funding for my lab is my biggest worry."

"Second biggest worry is publishing in high impact journals."

"Find the right balance between family and work."

"Securing a permanent position."

"Excessive pointless administration"
"100% irrelevant administration"
Academy-specific answers
Two main expectations: networking and influencing policy

How good is the Academy at achieving its aims

- Excellent: 17
- Unsure: 6
- Poor: 3
- Okay: 11
- Good: 45

Should do more

- Influence policy: 48
- Career support: 26
- Other: 2
- No need: 11
Activity and time

How active are you

- Not at all active: 2
- Not very active: 28
- Average: 26
- Quite active: 14
- Very active: 12

What prevents from being more active

- Don't want to: 3
- Other: 11
- No opportunities: 10
- Don't know: 13
- Irrelevant activities: 5

Hours per week

- No time: 61
- Average: 26
- 1–2: 25
- 2–5: 20
- >5: 10
- <1: 5
Positive impacts


Positive impact of membership

- Not sure: 11
- It hasn't had any impact: 19
- It's too early to tell: 23
- Yes, a bit: 25
- Yes, a lot: 4

Prestigious recognition
Final message

YAE should do something, literary ANYTHING!,
to help reduce the administration duties of
academic faculty.

Academia should definitely be an affair without frontiers

Nice survey!

Much, much more could be
uncovered by deeper analyses!

can is a good survey! I hope it helps

Keep up the good work!

It would be helpful if there was a way to report cases of
bullying or maltreatment in academia, not so much for the
benefit of the individual case but to create wider awareness
and reduce victim blaming.