

Work program 2018

The Young Academy of Norway

– The voice of young researchers in the public arena

Introduction

The Young Academy of Norway's (AYF) work program for 2018 is designed to realize AYF's mission statement and strategy for the 2017-2021 period.

The purpose of AYF is:

- a. To be an interdisciplinary forum for younger researchers
- b. To be a research policy platform for younger researchers
- c. To be an active driver of innovative research dissemination
- d. To be an attractive forum for scientific debate

AYF's strategy for the 2017-2021 period is to be a clear voice in academic and research policy debates.

In order to achieve this goal, AYF must be:

- A driving force for increased interest in research
- A driving force for increased investment in research
- A driving force for dissemination of research results
- A driving force for improved career development for younger researchers

The work program for 2018 has two components. The first part presents AYF's goals for the year's work in the areas of research policy and research dissemination. The second part is an action plan that lists the specific measures for each of these areas.

Research policy

AYF's strategic objectives in the area of research policy for the 2017-2021 period are to:

- Increase research policy engagement among younger researchers
- Influence the research policy agenda for key political actors and institutions
- Promote research as a critical voice in the public debate

The overall objective of AYF's research policy work for 2018 is to further develop and achieve a prominent role for the research policy platform created during its first three years (2015-2017). AYF will continue its work to ensure better career paths for younger researchers, specifically related to improving the employment structure in the higher education sector, and the general career policy at the individual research institutions. In 2018, AYF will also develop new policies on diversity, gender equality and internationalization in Norwegian research institutions. Work on issues relating to research quality, open science and academic freedom will continue. In addition to these issues, AYF also intends to focus on the arts and humanities in its follow-up of the government's ongoing revision of the Long-Term Plan for Research and Higher Education, and in the three priority areas of the Research Council of Norway, namely migration, environment and technology. Innovation will also be a critical issue for AYF's research policy work, especially related to major investments within the life sciences. In addition to participating in the public debate, AYF will continue to conduct surveys among young scholars in Norway to document particularly important issues in sectors, develop memoranda as a basis for public discussion and host its own debates with broad representation from the research policy sector and academia.

Research dissemination

AYF's strategic objectives in the area of research dissemination for the 2017-2021 period are to:

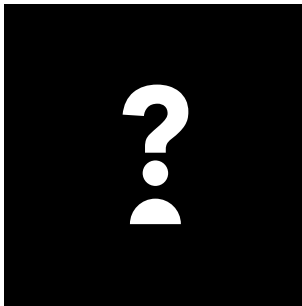
- Contribute to the dissemination of research results, especially aimed at younger researchers
- Encourage increased dissemination of research results and interdisciplinary networking among younger researchers
- Highlight the role of researchers and inspire children and young people to take an interest in academic research

AYF's main dissemination objective for 2018 is to raise the profile of the research of AYF members. This will be achieved through a robust communication strategy, activities targeted towards children and young people, and a strong focus on dissemination of outstanding interdisciplinary research to a broader public. AYF will actively participate in Norway's Science Week in large cities and participate as judges at events under the heading of "Hvorfor det?" AYF will participate actively in both dissemination and research policy events during Arendalsuka. AYF will also arrange its own specialist conference and explore the possibility of establishing a prize for young researchers for outstanding work that promotes global development in a sustainable fashion.

ACTION PLAN

RESEARCH POLICY

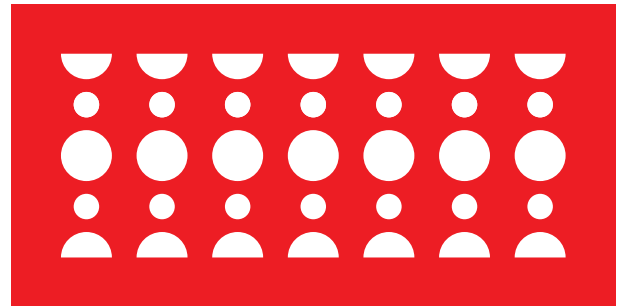
Issue



Objective



Approach



Career paths for researchers

Continue to highlight the need for clear career paths and put a more systematic and structural career policy for younger researchers on the agenda

- Follow up on AYF's input on career paths in the revised long-term plan for research and higher education
- Arrange public debates concerning the state of career paths in higher education
- Stimulate active debate and reflection on career policy through formal and informal meetings with institutions and stakeholders in the higher education sector

Diversity, gender equality and internationalization in academia

Develop AYF policies on diversity, gender equality and internationalization

- Draw up a memorandum on AYF's policies on diversity, gender equality and internationalization
- Participate in the debate with sector leaders on internationalization in academia on 18 January
- Review the Norwegian research institutions' action plans and strategies in the area
- Arrange a debate on diversity, gender equality and internationalization in academia with participation from leading actors

RESEARCH POLICY (cont.)

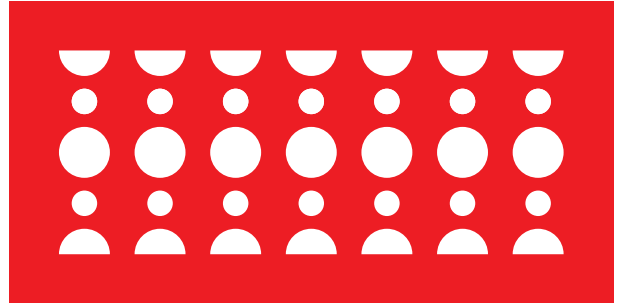
Issue



Objective



Approach



Research quality

Occupational safety, good research quality, and free and in-dependent research

- Draw up a memorandum on AYF's research quality policy
- Follow up on AYF's input on research quality in the revised long-term plan for research and higher education
- Arrange a debate on research quality
- Draw up a memorandum on AYF's policy on the arts and humanities research

Artistic and humanities research

Achieve an increased understanding across political parties of the importance of the artistic and humanities research for societal development

- Arrange a panel discussion on humanities research
- Participate at the University of Agder's humanities conference
- Arrange a debate on the importance of arts and humanities research in societal development

Life sciences, innovation and transition

Develop AYF's policy regarding life sciences, innovation and transition

- Draw up a memorandum on AYF's policy for life sciences, transition and innovation
- Map out and investigate complex support systems within life sciences, including the lack of support for interdisciplinary research and PhD programs

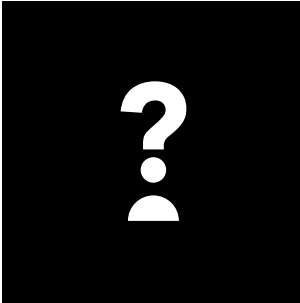
Surveys

Increase the knowledge base for AYF's research policy efforts

- Design, implement and analyze a thorough survey among younger researchers in Norway and relevant institutions to establish a knowledge base for further research policy debate

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

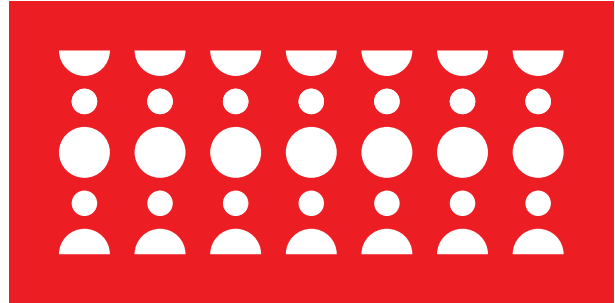
Issue



Objective



Approach



Science Week

Contribute to disseminating research and increase interest in research among children and young people

- Arrange Research Night and host an exhibitor's booth in Norway's largest cities during Science Week

Book a Researcher/ Hvorfor det?

Increase dissemination among younger researchers and increase children's and young people's knowledge of research and their ability to think critically

- Complete a website for "Book a Researcher" and promote the concept in the media aimed at schools and teachers
- Conduct at least 10 school visits
- Participate as judges in "Why is it so?"
- Write a feature article in the national media directed at children

Arendalsuka

Highlight AYF as a research policy organization and disseminator of ground-breaking research

- Arrange at least one event during Arendalsuka where research policy is discussed with leading actors
- Participate in research policy debates arranged by others
- Arrange at least one event where member's own research is disseminated

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION (cont.)

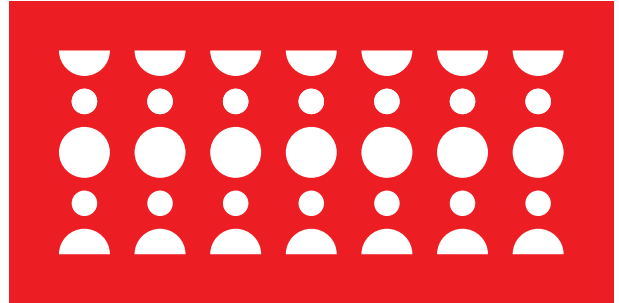
Issue



Objective



Approach



**Academic
conference**

**Organize
an attractive
interdisciplinary
academic
conference
targeted at young
researchers and the
academic sector
in general**

- Initiate contact with other young researcher organizations to gather experiences
- Arrange an interdisciplinary academic conference during the last quarter of the year

**Prize for young
researchers**

**Highlight
research that
promotes global
development in a
sustainable fashion**

- Create an international prize for young researchers across the world who exemplify AYP's vision for sustainable global development

