

Skype meeting with ANA – Wien team. 09-03-2018 (17:30 – 18:30)

Proposed activity

Young ANA will promote young scientist participation to social events. Proposals have been presented for activities involving:

- Informal gatherings e.g. Beer hours (first event scheduled by Marco Pende on 23-03-2018)
- “Night of science”- style events, favoring exposure of young scientist presentations
- The creation of a young network based on local and national activities is proposed by many participants
- Organizing bigger symposia at national and international level has been proposed. *Commitment to international event as first Young ANA initiative has been discouraged as aiming to city-events for starters could be more in the league of the current team structure and resources.* Proactive initiative from Young ANA members in Wien is to start teams and city initiatives are required to start local networking projects.
- Proposal for a general strategy starting small and scaling up in the years to come has been debated. The structured organization of teams and tasks has been repeatedly advised, for coordinated development.
- Proposal of linking more people to Young ANA has been emphasized: I. the creation of service e.g. “Science Help Online” dedicated to Young ANA members II. Institution of symposia with rewards for excellence in scientific data presentation. III. Strategic pricing of ANA membership for students with particular attention for reduced fares for students that are not supported from PI or for master internship students**
- Outreach activity has been encouraged, suggesting to join other initiatives that promote neuroscience at city-level. *The idea has been however also argued against, in favor of more original CV-building and self-sustained initiatives.*
- The need of active advertisement through social media has been stressed upon. Young ANA members have currently “moderator” privileges on the Facebook group and are strongly encouraged to post there any news (events etc.) at their discretion. Young ANA members are also encouraged to bring on information to the President in order to bring news-highlights to the Young ANA web page.
- Young ANA national project based on short video-advertisement has been discussed. *The idea has not been embraced by the majority, but it might start as trial involving few people and proposing a test-product.*
- The institution of excellence awards to young students has been proposed, including different possibilities that are to be further discussed with ANA board. Prizes for thesis, publications or excellent presentations at scientific meetings and symposia are possible items to implement in the Young ANA / ANA program.
- Young ANA internationals will be a “virtual team” of young ANA scientists currently abroad, who will support online-based advertisement and contribute to the Young ANA “Science Help Online” service. The Young ANA internationals will also be instrumental to coordinate networking events at international meetings such as FENS or SfN.

** Suggested options (to be discussed within ANA): A. Reduced price for Master students B. Test-membership for limited time (promotional for recruiting young members) C. Open contribution for students.

Additionally

- The Austrian flag currently appearing on the Young ANA logo will be exchanged for a more international-appealing color pattern.
- The possibility of “older brother” sponsorship for young students has been proposed, where older members might volunteer to support the cost of new member test-registration. This initiative will be at first promoted by the Young ANA president. Criteria for the selection of sponsored young members need to be discussed. This option is particularly attractive when matched by a limited-time test ANA subscription or a special student-reduced fare.
- The networking event at FENS should be taking place as “0-budget” and will be promoted as a Young ANA hangout in Berlin, outside the City Cube.