Nomination procedure for the Utrecht Young Academy

The Utrecht Young Academy (UYA) forms an energetic, active, independent, and interdisciplinary academy within Utrecht University, where excellent young Utrecht-based scholars (between 0 and 8 years after receiving their PhD degrees)¹ can openly connect, interact, and exchange critical perspectives on academic policy and society in Utrecht and beyond. The UYA launched with 24 members in November of 2016. Members are appointed for a period of 5 years. Each year additional 8 members will join.

Who are we looking for?
The UYA is looking for 8 excellent young UU-scholars (between 0 and 8 years after receiving their PhD degrees). There is a preference for individuals who have not (yet) had a leadership position within a large research group. Members are mostly in an earlier stage in their career than members of De Jonge Akademie of the KNAW. UYA members think ‘outside the box’, have a broad vision on research and education, and are motivated to actively organise and participate in UYA events. In general members should be willing to invest two to four hours per week in UYA activities.

Selection procedure
In uneven years, deans, education vice-deans, directors of strategic programmes, and PhD-councils may each submit 3 nominations: 1 male candidate / 1 female candidate / 1 diversity candidate. In even years, young scholars may nominate themselves. In addition, members of De Jonge Akademie of the KNAW in Utrecht may nominate 2 candidates within their academic career at Utrecht University.

For the purpose of diversity candidates, and in line with University policy, UYA adopts a broad definition of diversity. It can relate to, for instance, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender identification, sexuality, social class, and religion. Other aspects may also fall within the purview of diversity. The goal is to increase the participation of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in academia.

The selection of candidates will take place in two rounds. In the first round, the academic qualities of the candidate and their motivation, as evidenced by their CV and nomination form, will be assessed. In the second round, approximately 20 candidates will be invited for an interview. The interviews will cover candidates’ passion for academic research and education, their motivation to be an active member within the UYA, their ideas for UYA activities, and their thoughts on themes such as inter-/multidisciplinary collaboration and internationalisation in education and research. The selection committee strives towards a proportional representation of alpha-, beta- and gamma disciplines within UYA as well as a balanced representation in relation to gender and other forms of diversity. The detailed selection procedure can be found in the attached selection regulations.

¹ An extension clause may be applied; the period of 8 years can be extended with an additional 24 months, in the case of demonstrable prolonged periods of leave in relation to illness, parenthood, pregnancy or care. Extension is also possible if the candidate has a part-time appointment in combination with caring responsibilities, is completing or has completed a specialist medical training as recognized by the KNMG, or has taken compassionate leave in combination with a specialist medical training.
The Mission of the Utrecht Young Academy

The mission of the UYA can be split up in three areas: academia, policy, and society.

**Utrecht Young Academy and Academia**
- the UYA is a collaboration platform and network for the exchange and generation of ideas among young academics in Utrecht, the Netherlands, and the world;
- the UYA is committed to multidisciplinarity and inclusivity in research and education;
- the UYA promotes open science within academia;

**Utrecht Young Academy and Policy**
- the UYA contributes actively to evidence-based policy on all levels of government both in and outside the university;
- the UYA gives a voice to young academics by reaching out to policy-makers in order to influence science and education policy in and outside Utrecht;

**Utrecht Young Academy and Society**
- the UYA makes science accessible and promotes open science in society;
- the UYA promotes scholarly thinking in society; and
- the UYA stimulates an open discussion about the role of university in society.

The nomination
Nominations should include the nomination form and a CV as a separate attachment (properly labelled with the candidates’ first and last names). The nomination form and CV must be submitted in English. The nomination form asks for a characterisation of the research, a description of the academic productivity, and an overview of the five best/most important publications of the candidate. It furthermore asks for activities and vision of the candidate in the field of academia and society, as well as their experiences and vision in relation to internationalisation and inter- and multidisciplinarity in research and education. Finally, we ask for activities that the candidate would like to undertake within the context of the UYA.

The deadline for submitting nominations: **1 September 2017**
Interviews will take place on **4, 5 and 13 October 2017** in the afternoon (request for nominated candidates to keep these dates free!)

More information
For more information about the submission of nominations, please contact the secretary of the Utrecht Young Academy, Fati Shahrabi (tel: 030 253 2631, email: uya@uu.nl). Please also visit the website of the UYA for more information.