

# Bylaws - Delft Young Academy

Approved by the Executive Board TU Delft on 30-08-2022

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## ARTICLE I. TERMS USED

- a. DYA = Delft Young Academy
- b. GA = General Assembly
- c. BM = Board Member
- d. EB = Executive Board
- e. SC = Selection Committee

## ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

- a. **Objective:** The Delft Young Academy (DYA) provides an open, diverse and inclusive platform to early-career academics at TU Delft, with the purpose of promoting the exchange of opinions and ideas, fostering collaborations, discussing (societal and university-related) issues of interest to these academics, and voicing the opinion of the DYA community in discussions with relevant stakeholders, including the Executive Board (EB) of TU Delft. The objective is summarized in the mission statement: *“The Delft Young Academy envisions supporting TU Delft to be an inspiring, safe and inclusive environment for early career academics to achieve their full potential in a world-class research and education environment”*
- b. **Strategy:**
  - i. The DYA stimulates active dialogue and discussion between early career academics from different disciplines, on topics related (but not restricted) to university policy, national policy regarding research and education, societal developments and the role of science/scientists therein, open science, early career development, research valorization, ethics, diversity, inclusion, and educational/scientific developments
  - ii. The DYA provides a voice to early-career academics to communicate about topics of interest to its members, including (but not restricted to) the abovementioned subjects, to relevant stakeholders within and beyond TU Delft
  - iii. The DYA will actively exchange perspectives with other young academies related to (inter)national topics of interest to early-career academics

## ARTICLE III. ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNANCE

- i. The DYA activities are laid out by the board in a yearly workplan (approved by the Executive Board of TU Delft), which forms the basis for the annual budget approved and provided by the Executive Board
- ii. The DYA board delivers an annual report outlining the activities and achievements of the previous academic year
- iii. The working language of the DYA is English
- iv. In case of disputes between members and/or board members, DYA will seek advice from the EB TUDelft

## ARTICLE IV. (BOARD)MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

- a. Membership
  - i. A Member is a TUD academic registered with the DYA and respecting the following criteria: scientific staff (Postdoc, UD, UHD, Full professor) who attained their Ph.D. title at a maximum of 10 years before their registration at the DYA and have an appointment of at least 0,6FTE. Membership terminates when the member does not longer meet the membership criteria. The following exceptions to the 10-year maximum apply to be evaluated by the acting DYA Board on a case-by-case basis:
    - a. Maternity or paternity leave
    - b. Care responsibilities
    - c. Long-term sickness
    - d. Any other provision stipulated by the acting board
  - ii. A Member aims to be actively involved in the DYA
  - iii. A Member will be consulted and can be part of the GA (Article V)
  - iv. A Member could be discharged in case of misconduct, misbehavior, or other provision stipulated in the [TU Delft Code of Conduct](#)
- b. The DYA board
  - i. The board is composed of DYA Members, which act as representatives and have a decision mandate
  - ii. The board can be composed of at most twelve Board Members (BMs):
    - Two (co)chairs
    - One treasurer
    - at most nine board members-at-large
  - iii. The (co)chair(s) and the treasurer are selected in agreement with the majority of BMs
  - iv. The position of the (co)chair(s) and the treasurer have a standard duration of one year; deviation from this term is possible in specific cases after discussion with the entire board.
  - v. The (co)chair(s) have the general duties of management usually vested in such an office. They shall, if possible, represent the DYA in official events.
  - vi. The treasurer shall be responsible for all duties related to the budget and informs the board on such matters.
  - vii. The board will be supported by Directory Strategic Development TU Delft
- c. Conditions for selection of BMs
  - i. Any Member of the DYA can apply to become a BM
  - ii. A BM commits to the board for two full academic years (September to August)<sup>1</sup>.
  - iii. Each academic year, five new BMs will be selected for the board, and five BMs will be discharged.
  - iv. In case of an applicant shortage, BMs can be re-selected for one year
  - v. In case BMs resign during the running academic year, a successor will only directly be recruited in case the number of active board members is reduced below six
- d. Selection and appointment of BMs

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<sup>1</sup> This condition does not apply to the founding board. Period 2022 – 2023.

- i. Members must express their interest in becoming BM in writing before the deadline set by the selection committee (Article IV.d.ii)
- ii. The active board will appoint a diverse Selection Committee (SC) in charge of the selection process. The SC shall be composed of five people (each having one vote) and shall be supported by Strategic Development.
- iii. The SC is composed of: Two BMs; two Members of the DYA that have expressed their interest in joining the selection committee (selected by the board in case of high interest) and that are not candidates for the upcoming board, and one external committee member such as a DYA initiator or DYA board alumnus.
- iv. The SC will ensure the diversity of the upcoming board, considering gender balance, academic seniority, faculty distribution, and international composition, among other considerations. The board will preferably not contain more than two board members per faculty.
- v. Members will be informed about the specifics of the selection process
- e. Discharge of BM
  - i. BMs will be discharged from their duties after the finalization of their period, reserving the right to be re-selected (Article IV.c.iv)
  - ii. A BM who resigns will be discharged.
  - iii. A BM could be discharged from the board by the acting DYA board in case of misconduct, misbehavior, or other provision stipulated in the [TU Delft Code of Conduct](#).
  - iv. A BM could be discharged by a GA vote.
  - v. A BM who does not longer meets the membership criteria will be discharged. Exceptions to this can be made on a case-by-case basis, by the acting board.
- f. Participants
  - i. Any TUD academic can participate in the open activities organized by the DYA and indicate that they want to be informed about general DYA matters.
  - ii. A participant will not take part in the GA (Article V)

#### ARTICLE V. GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

- a. The GA is composed of the BMs and present Members
- b. A GA
  - i. Is always called for alterations to the bylaws
  - ii. Can be called for other purposes (requiring formal discussion or approval by the DYA members) at the discretion of the board
- c. The Members can call a GA
  - i. A minimum of 25 Members or 50% of the Members is required for calling a GA
  - ii. The board is informed about the GA by the members calling the GA in writing
  - iii. The Members calling the GA should inform all DYA members about the topics up for discussion
- d. During the GA

- i. A minimum of 50% BMs must be present. In case a BM cannot attend the meeting, the BM can express the vote digitally before the GA. A BM that refrains from voting can be discharged.
- ii. A minimum of 25 Members or 50% of the Members must be present, else there will be no voting
- iii. All present members have one vote
- iv. All votes invoking decisions about people shall be anonymous
- v. A decision is reached with the majority of the vote

#### ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any moment. Proposed amendments should be approved in a GA and by the Executive Board TU Delft on the advice of Directory Legal Services TU Delft. Proposed amendments shall be communicated to all members prior to the GA. The new bylaws will be made known to all members and published on the official website of DYA.