

August 2024

2023-2024 REPORT

YOUNG SCIENTIST JOURNAL



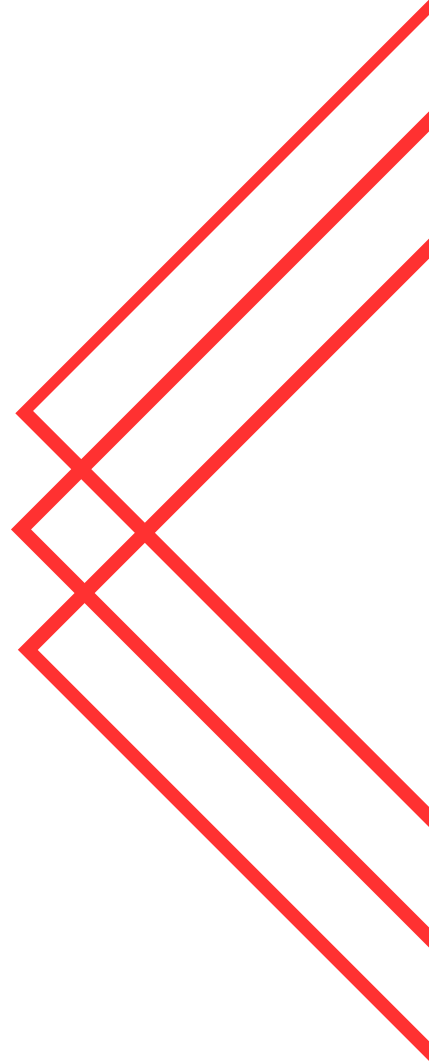
About

YSJ has had a transformative change this year. The working body has displayed its resilience and rigour. It is through the will of its volunteers that YSJ's success relies upon. Record staff (165) have joined YSJ this year. This report originates from the sum of their efforts. It has been a pleasure to have been Chief Editor this year, but it is an even higher honour to have worked with such incredible talent.

Cayman Osei-Bonsu

Mission

YSJ need renewal in 2023. No international hubs were running, no podcasts and videography were published, marketing posts had been down for months, and very few author articles were published. The active management body needed herculean growth to stimulate activity across all departments. We now have 30 individuals in active leadership roles, giving up a significant portion of their free time. Centralisation was wanting. All guides, documents and information are now available via a central staff hub (Notion). This combination has fixed the former issues and futureproofed further ones.



Editorial

The editorial department's fabric has remained, but its composition has not. The Article Management System was down. YSJ has now have a renewed website with a more accessible interface. The AMS is now integrated with a centralised Notion platform, ensuring a smooth turnover of articles.

- A record number of articles have passed through academic review. The editorial department has had the most notable growth in its number of staff, highlighting its appeal. The Head of Editorial, with their two deputies, did a fantastic job managing new staff and authors.
- Monthly, senior editors update the work of their department. A senior editor post has been vacant for no more than a month. It has been critical to ensure each subject gets the attention it deserves. Authors have been able to publish their work regardless of the subject.
- The senior team have implemented cross-subject aid to reduce disparity in subject staff levels. The new flexible AMS has allowed the freezing of article submissions in certain subjects, to cope with varied demands.

The senior team sent feedback forms to gauge the department. Overall, there was an overwhelmingly positive response. Monthly, senior editorial staff give an update on their department so the senior team can assist them.

It is the diligence of editors that YSJ is to thank for a record year.

Summary of Achievements

- New minimal website
- New, flexible Article Management System via Notion
- Record articles have passed academic review
- Record junior editor levels in recent history.

Production

Production boasts the most varied department. From podcasts to content, backend technology to print issues, it is the home of innovation.

Systems & Technology

- YSJ implemented a robust recruitment platform in a centralised Notion space, linking it with a Tally form from the website. Record recruits followed from this.
- Server channels were streamlined, with disused ones backed up.
- The Head of Technology innovated YSJ's backend systems; a ticketing system has allowed internal enquiries to be dealt with effectively.
- A new reporting bot has fostered better cross-departmental communication. A general Discord account allowed better continuity.
- The new website is clean, minimalist and easy to navigate. The tech team is designing an archive website to back up older articles.

Content

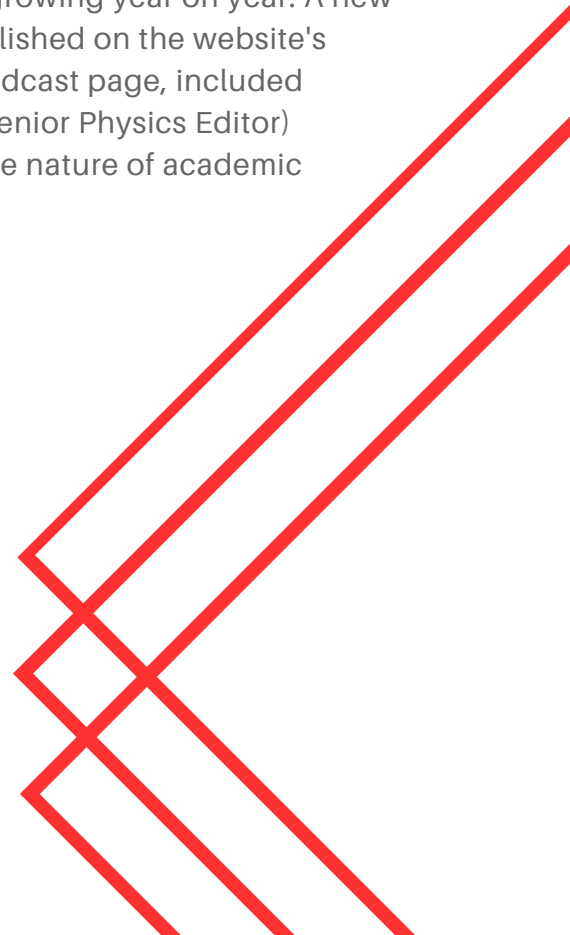
The Lead Content Creator set a definitive schedule, monumentally boosting the number of content pieces on the website. Epigenetics, Medical Nanotechnology, Group Dynamics, Number Theory, and Time Dilation were just a sample of subjects probed. The content team is working on Scientist of the Month.

Print

YSJ finally completed the special print issue. It was the culmination of cross-departmental efforts. The special issue had articles written by summer interns. The articles needed rigorous academic checks. The Lead Artist provided the front page with original art. The Print Team stitched together the articles using InDesign files.

Podcast

The podcast team was revived, with two new managers to elevate its presence. It has perfectly coincided with UK podcast listenership growing year on year. A new podcast, published on the website's dedicated podcast page, included Arpan Dey (Senior Physics Editor) discussing the nature of academic research.



Number Breakdown

New Recruits	165
LinkedIn Followers	5000
Team Leaders	33
International Hubs	2

Marketing

Last September, posts and engagement had been down for a few months. The Head of Marketing's robust social media schedule has resulted in greater media engagement.

Social Media

YSJ formalised its brand formatting to its centralised Notion page. YSJ's TikTok Lead resolved a two-year absence of posts, reviving a crucial platform for youth engagement.

The Journal's Instagram page had a 43% increase in reach, with X's (Twitter) page back up and posting.

LinkedIn following is at a record of 5k followers.

Newsletter

YSJ formed a step-by-step newsletter guide to improve department continuity. The Journal updated its newsletter backend system to a more streamlined platform.

YSJ regularly published its newsletter throughout the year, including STEM IRL. Robust scheduling in both departments has led to recent marketing milestones.

Outreach

A year ago, less than five members were in the department. Now, membership has more than doubled, with two new international hubs opening.

Ambassadors

- No international hubs were in operation last year. Recently, YSJ held its first meeting with a school in Kottayam, India. The introduction of local activities will project YSJ's presence across the globe. Likewise, YSJ began a new hub in Toulouse, France.
- YSJ drafted a future Scheme of Work to regulate and formalise YSJ's ambassador activities.
- YSJ wants to foster youth engagement in STEM across the world. Ambassadorial work continues to be an integral part of this mission.

Events & Partnerships

- The year began with a burst of energy, with the 2023 YSJ conference in Canterbury. It included a Q&A and a panel of speakers.
- YSJ's outreach guides and templates are now stored in YSJ's centralised system, providing continuity for years.
- LinkedIn followers are now at record levels, increasing YSJ's engagement with young scientists across the globe.
- The outreach team held an event at a conference in Tonbridge, Kent. The team talked about setting up local UK hubs. The team also invited students to volunteer at the journal; some remain at YSJ today.
- YSJ continues to participate in the RSCU Science Challenge.
- The YSJ 2024 conference already has most of its speakers confirmed. YSJ has selected a broader range of expertise, including STEM non-academic careers. It will inspire attendees in ways they may not expect

Other Achievements

Other departments

- Collective to-do list elevated cross-departmental dialogue.
- Senior Team handover documents allowed smoother transitions
- No team leader vacancy was left open for two more than two months.
- Updated editorial guides, YSJ's reputation remains robust.
- Formulated outreach email templates, reaching more partners in the process.
- Formed onboarding setup on Discord, automatically assigning roles to junior staff.
- Multiple targeted meetings were held throughout the year, constructing future goals.
- Multi-factor authentication was made mandatory, enhancing security for YSJ's servers.
- Record number of articles passed through to the Academic Advisor check.
- YSJ held two different community nights, accommodating different time zones by HR.



The Team 2023-2024

Chief Editor - **Cayman Osei-Bonsu**

Mentor - **James Green**

Mentor & YSJ coordinator - **Ben Landymore**

Deputy Chief Editor - **Aprotim Paul**

Head of Editorial - **Priyal Sheth**

Head of Production - **Nishka Srivastava, Atiksh Chandra**

Head of Technology & Lead Software Engineer - **Josh Leach**

Head of Marketing - **Asmita Anand, Oliver Freer**

Head of Outreach - **Isaac Wright**

Head of Academic Advisors - **Patrick Kilgannon**

Head of HR - **Manya Sharma**

Executive Editor for Biological Sciences - **Nabil Alizadeh,**

Executive Editor for Physical Sciences - **Arjun Sharma, Afreen Hossain**

Media Executive - **Kuzey Kantarcioglu**

Social Media Executive - **Abhinav Siram**

Newsletter Executive - **Yachna D, Himanshu Sadulwad**

Ambassadors Executive - **Saanvi S Kumar**

HR Executive - **Moazzan Imran**

Cross Departmental Assistance - **Harry Cordeaux**

Astrophysics Senior Editor - **Karan Choudhary**

Biology Senior Editor - **Prashmi Pateria, Lisa Dixon,**

Biochemistry Senior Editor - **Lauren Goralsky**

Chemistry Senior Editor - **Yadu Karthikeyan, Amy Pan**

Computer Science Senior Editor - **Yachna D, Afreen Hossain**

Engineering Senior Editor - **Akshara Sankar, Murtaza Ahmed**

Environment Senior Editor - **Julia Goralsky**

Maths Senior Editor - **Erin Li**

Medicine Senior Editor - **Devaanshi Kawatra, Yadu Karthikeyan**

Physics Senior Editor - **Arpan Dey**

Policy & Ethics Senior Editor - **Devaanshi Kawatra, Siya Kulkarni**

Lead Artist - **Kehinde Olabode**

Lead Print Artist - **George Payne**

Lead Content Writer - **Himanshu Sadulwad**

Podcast Manager - **Mayank Dora, Driti Gundana**

Instagram & Twitter Lead - **Khushi Agarwal**

TikTok Lead - **Mehak Chawla**