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BYSTANDER WEEK

February 14-18

In February we hosted our Annual Bystander Week on campus to highlight the range of unacceptable behaviour in modern Irish society and the importance of the programme to support the education and empowerment of all members of the UCC community. The busy week of activities included information stands with representation from An Garda Síochána, Sexual Health Centre, Women's Aid and MOVE Ireland and facilitated workshops, panel discussions and an art exhibition inspired by the programme. We hosted brilliant speakers on key related issues including Mary Hayes from Women's Aid 'Too into You' Project, Eve McDowell Co-Founder of Stalking Ireland, Aileen Waterman UCC Student Work Placement Manager, and the Director of the UCC Bystander Intervention programme Professor Louise Crowley.



UCC's Bystander Intervention Programme has been shortlisted for the Outstanding Support for Students Award in the prestigious 2022 Times Higher Education (THE) Awards. The THE Awards has considered over 550 entries from all corners of the UK and Ireland and shortlisted the best Higher Education Institutes (HEI) across 20 categories. The award will be given to the Irish or UK institution that has most helped its students to gain the maximum benefit from their study.

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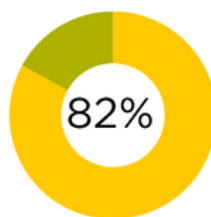
MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE - CITY HALL

Bystander Intervention programme director Prof. Louise Crowley gave the keynote address at the Davis College Model United Nations conference in Cork. Prof. Crowley spoke to over 400 students on the importance of their role in eliminating all forms of domestic violence and sexual harassment. At the event, students discussed some of the biggest social, political and economic issues facing Ireland, Europe and the World.

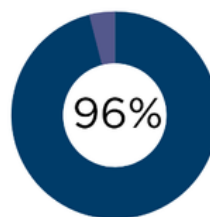
! IMPORTANCE OF BYSTANDER TRAINING !

UCC Bystander Intervention is an evidence-based educational initiative to educate and empower participants to demand an end to sexual harassment and violence. It is a crucial training offered by third level institutions in Ireland that seeks to prevent sexual assault or rape, harassment, and unwanted comments of a racist, sexist, or homophobic nature. UCC staff and students continue to sign up for Bystander intervention training, demonstrating their commitment to contributing to a safer working and learning environment for all.

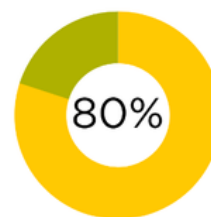
Since Completion of the Bystander Programme:



believe they can make a difference in regard to sexual harassment and violence at their institution.



have a good understanding of what constitutes sexual harassment and violence.



have a good ability to intervene in a threatening or dangerous situation.

UCC Bystander Intervention Programme Participants' Results

MOVING PARTS



Moving Parts is a series of short animated and motion graphic videos tackling the topic of consent and telling the stories of survivors of sexual violence and image-based abuse. The series was created by students and graduates from IADT and was developed in collaboration with UCC's Bystander Intervention Programme and the University of Galway's Active* Consent Programme.

An analysis of events in pop culture through an active bystander lens



The Crazy-in-Love Celebrity Couple

It's easy to confuse chaos with whirlwind romance, even for celebrity couple Machine Gun Kelly and Megan Fox. In this campaign, we looked at the toxic tropes that get tangled up in celebrity culture.



KIMYE

We looked at Kim and Kanye's relationship through an active bystander lens and found it to be very problematic. Kanye displays overly possessive, controlling, and unpredictable behaviour. This campaign goes through some signs of intimate relationship abuse.



Transformers

This movie embodies a toxic masculinity full of "hot women, fast cars, big guns, and bigger robots". We looked at the over-sexualisation and objectification of women in this 00's blockbuster.



Pam & Tommy

As Active Bystanders, it is important to recognise image-based sexual abuse when we see it. This campaign looked at 'Pam & Tommy,' the Disney Plus show retelling the story of a leaked 'sex tape' of Pamela Anderson and her husband Tommy Lee.

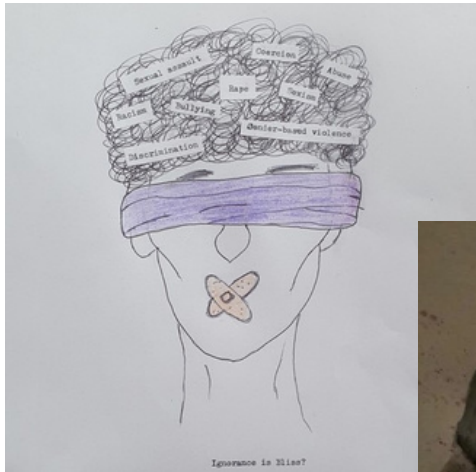


We created an explainer on what to do if you are a victim of Image-Based Sexual Abuse.

ART EXHIBITION

BOOLE LIBRARY

As part of Bystander Week, our friends at UCC Boole library hosted an exhibition of art and written word comprising of reflections submitted by programme participants which represent their considered responses to the Bystander Intervention programme.



Ignorance is Bliss?



Dominos



**We MUST do better.
Stand against transphobia.**

Undertake Bystander Training today.

with love & solidarity,



Learning how to be an ally to transgender and non-binary people takes both time and effort. We support international transgender day of visibility.

CONFERENCE AT STORMONT



In June 2022 Prof. Crowley was invited by the Northern Ireland Executive Office to share her experience in developing the UCC Bystander Intervention programme to inform the Northern Ireland Strategy to End Violence Against Women and Girls. At a conference on 28th June 2022 at Parliament Buildings in Stormont, Prof. Crowley presented the vision and impact of the training to invited law makers, educators, businesses, sports associations, public authorities, universities, colleges, churches and youth groups.

Funded by the Irish Research Council, the Bystander team developed a bespoke, age-appropriate TY Bystander Intervention programme in consultation with teachers and pupils. In response to a surge of interest amongst second level schools, we have delivered facilitator training to 140 teachers from 45 schools across Ireland. The 6-workshop based approach is currently being piloted and addresses the crucial issues of Being a Bystander, Consent and Healthy Relationships, Social Norms and Sexual Harassment, Online Harassment and Image Based Sexual Abuse, and How to Make Safe and Effective Interventions. We look forward to sharing the impact data on completion of the pilot.

PILOT PROGRAMME - SECONDARY SCHOOLS



SECOND LEVEL PILOT REFRESHER CONFERENCE



In September 2022, a refresher training session for teachers who had participated in the pilot training programme was held at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Aims and outputs of the programme were reviewed on the day. Preliminary data collected at the conference conveyed the importance of having a 'whole school approach' to the programme. A collective understanding of sexual assault and violence is crucial to build a zero-tolerance culture in schools. Feedback also suggested the need for more visibility and promotion of the programme in participating schools using merchandise, posters, and social media platforms. The development of a junior cycle bystander programme was also proposed by teachers.

Second level pilot in the media:
[Independent.ie](https://www.independent.ie)

[Irish Examiner](#) [Southern Star](#)

The RSVP (Relationships and Sexual Violence Programme) was created by the Bystander team for first year students who are auto enrolled to it on their Canvas learning platform, and is a learning pathway to the Bystander Intervention Programme. 98% of students who have already completed this short 1.5-hour programme agree that it was worthwhile and necessary that all first years should complete it. RSVP is a two-module programme, the first module is centered around information on consent and awareness of harmful behaviours like Image Based Sex Abuse, drink spiking, intimate partner violence and stalking. The second module introduces bystander skills, as well as information on reporting problematic behaviour and support services.

RSVP PROGRAMME





UCC's Student Union hosted an on-campus vigil for Ashling Murphy on the 17th of January, with hundreds of staff and students in attendance.

The brutal, senseless murder of Ashling Murphy on 12TH January 2022 ripped through our collective hearts and reminded the women of Ireland of the fear that too often attaches to our everyday choices. The overarching message of the UCC Bystander Intervention programme is clear - all of society must recognise their responsibility to highlight unacceptable behaviour, to challenge unwanted advances both verbal and physical, to effect cultural change. The programme seeks to educate and empower UCC staff and students to recognise acts of sexual harassment and violence and to cultivate the participants' capacity to demand a zero-tolerance approach to all such behaviour, enabled by their upskilling in making safe and effective interventions, by calling out unacceptable behaviour. Each intervention can be both informative and transformative for the parties involved. Through targeted training, these interventions can become normalised, will identify a new level of expectation, and a new normal for women and girls.

Prof. Louise Crowley, Director Bystander Intervention programme, shared this vision during this difficult period:

[Second Captains: Violence Against Women and Girls, and what Society can do about it](#)
[Matt Cooper Show Today FM \(from 8 minutes\)](#)

[Oireachtas TV with Flor McCarthy](#)

[Irish Times Op Ed "It is 'All Men' Who Must Now Step Up and Speak Out"](#)

[UCC Educates Students About Inappropriate Behaviour" RTE Radio 1 This Week](#)

Bystander – Stand by Her

You could've stepped in
You could've spoke out
You heard her scream, you heard her shout

How does she feel?

How does he act?

A line was crossed, that is a fact

She is afraid

She is alone

She only wanted to go back home

He saw his chance

He got away with it

He never gave her the chance to quit

But you had a moment

To not shy away

Is she alone? Is she okay?

We all have the power, that much is true

The question is, What Will You do?

Are you a Bystander? Will you Stand By Her?



Bystander Effect

To see something you know is wrong,
And to ignore, and move along.
This is the case for many a bystander,
As they do not feel equipped with the right answer.

Now I know my role,
In preventing the problem going out of control.
Every person can play a part,
All they need is to know where to start.

A rapist, an abuser, an offender,
Can be any sex, any gender.
The issues must be addressed,
So no man, woman, child will ever feel suppressed.

#ibelieveher

#ibelieveher trended today
reminding me of #itsnotokay
#timesup was supposed to reclaim power but #metoos grow by the hour
#believewomen they tried to say
cries of false allegations never go away #nomeansno seems pretty clear
yet sometimes "no" gets choked by fear