

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2023



Bystander Intervention Week 2023

Every February we host Bystander Intervention Week on campus to highlight the issue of sexual violence and harassment and promote the Bystander Intervention programme.



BYSTANDER WEEK INFORMATION STANDS

In 2023, information stands were held on main campus and the Brookfield campus and our community Gardaí join us each year to distribute information and answer questions from students and staff. It is an opportunity to create awareness of support services and the services of our community partners. As ever we were delighted to have the support of UCC President Professor John O'Halloran

LAUNCH OF THE STAFF PROGRAMME

The staff / workplace programme was launched during Bystander week and was very well received. A presentation on the reach and impact of the programme was followed by a discussion panel with three staff members who had participated in the training discussing the benefits of training.



100% of staff participants believe that on completion of training they recognise their responsibility to address the issue of sexual harassment and violence

92% of staff participants affirm that on completion of training they would intervene in a situation where a work colleague is the subject of a sexist remark from a colleague, client for manager.

External Training

IRISH DEFENCE FORCES

Professor Louise Crowley, Director, UCC Bystander Intervention has undertaken to deliver SERR (Sexual Ethics and Respectful Relationships) training to members of the Irish Defence Forces at their 16 locations nationwide. Training commenced in September and members from all ranks of the Irish Army, Naval Service, Air Corps and Reserves are participating in the training. It commenced in September 2023 and will continue in 2024.



Brigadier General Rossa Mulcahy & Prof Louise Crowley
Photo: Mark Condren

ALL RIGHT ALL NIGHT YOUTH PROGRAMME

All Right All Night is a national campaign funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

A 6 module programme for schools and youth groups, alongside bespoke 2.5 hour workshops aimed at 16-24 year olds in sports and youth settings have been created (with 'Train the Trainer' opportunities). The training will support young people to be empowered with the right knowledge and skills to look out for one another as 'Active Bystanders' so everyone can have safe and fun nights out.

Queries on training opportunities to deliver these programmes or workshops in your youth setting can be directed to:
info@allrightallnight.ie
bystander@ucc.ie
www.ucc.ie/en/allright-allnight/



ON NIGHTS OUT —
LET'S LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER

Bystander Second Level Programme Research

OIREACHTAS COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Professor Louise Crowley, Programme Director and Céline Griffin, Manager, were invited to present their Bystander Intervention second level pilot findings and vision for second level curriculum change to the Oireachtas Committee on Consent Programmes in Irish Education in Nov '23.



Senator Eileen Flynn, Professor Louise Crowley, Celine Griffin and Senator Aisling Dolan

IRC FUNDED BYSTANDER INTERVENTION SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAMME

The impact report of the Bystander Intervention Secondary School Programme 2022/23 (funded by the Irish Research Council) was published.

The impact data indicates a very real capacity and desire for cultural change with an awakening of individual and collective capacity, to recognise and challenge unacceptable behaviour, and to demand and effect a better, more respectful experience for all.

Full report available here: www.ucc.ie/en/bystander/resources/

On completion of the training 64% students said they had the capacity to intervene if they witnessed or heard unacceptable behaviour.

This was an increase of 19% from pre-training.

Students feelings upon completion of the programme



Partnership with UCC Sport



Photoshoot highlighting the partnership between Bystander Intervention and UCC sports clubs

UCC SPORT INITIATIVES (MAR 2023)

The Bystander Programme has collaborated with UCC Sports on numerous initiatives.

UCC's GAA are the first third level club to join the GAA 'Healthy Club Initiative' and will be Cork's first club to include Bystander Intervention training as part of a suite of programmes to enhance their members' physical, social, emotional, and psychological health.

Each Sports Club now has a Respect Officer whose role is to demonstrate leadership in supporting and developing a positive and proactive culture of respect amongst all members of clubs.



Launch of the UCC GAA's Healthy Clubs Initiative



UCC Respect officers participate in Bystander Intervention Training

Student Engagement

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

The Bystander Intervention programme was promoted at student events throughout the year, including the National Dance Varsities, hosted by UCC Dance and the Consent Tea Party organised by FemSoc and UCC SU.



Le Cheile Workshop

Workshops are held for students who wish to avail of their digital badge, with workshops also being offered for specific cohorts of students e.g. Student Union, Peer Support Leaders, Le Cheile, Quercus Scholars

SOCIAL MEDIA COLLABORATIONS WITH STUDENTS

In Oct 23, the Bystander Intervention Programme was invited by the Students Union to create a series of social media posts for SHAG week, and invited by UCC Sport to do an Insta takeover to speak about Bystander's relationship with UCC Sport.

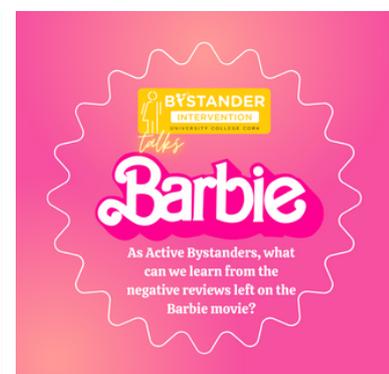
TARGETED SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

Social media posts were created to target incoming first years to create awareness of the Bystander Intervention programme and signpost to support services.

Targeted social media campaigns were held to highlight key learnings from the Barbie movie and to address the toxic commentary appearing on social media in response to the movie.



Marianne Joyce Bystander Research Assistant & SU Welfare officer Aoibhe O'Brien attending the Consent Tea Party during SHAG week



Embedding training in units and academic modules



**95% increase in sign
ups to the Bystander
Intervention Digital
Badge programme
from March to October
at Tyndall**

TYNDALL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The EDI and People & Culture Committees at the Tyndall National Research Institute are really passionate about inclusion, belonging and respect. Céline Griffin, Manager of the Bystander programme was invited to speak about how bystander training contributes to a respectful work environment” at Tyndall’s recent conference.



Students attending Tyndall’s summer fellowship programme participated in Bystander Intervention Training.

EMBEDDING BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING INTO ACADEMIC MODULES

We continue to work with programme co-ordinators to provide training to their students as part of their academic assessments.

Pictured is Dr. Elisa Serra-Porteiro's at UCC’s CIRTl Teaching and Learning Showcase, with her poster providing an overview of how she embedded Bystander Intervention training into the BA International student’s module.



Plans for 2024

BYSTANDER WEEK 2024

Bystander week will be held from **Monday 26th February to Friday 1st March 2024**. Many other HEI's will co-ordinate their Bystander Intervention promotions during this week ensuring a sector approach in creating awareness of the benefits of Bystander Intervention Training.

Further correspondence on UCC's Bystander events will be disseminated in January. Please contact us at bystander@ucc.ie if your institution or school would like to host an event during Bystander week, February 2024.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION WORKSHOPS FOR WORKPLACE SETTINGS

Bystander Intervention presentations and workshops are available for organisations and workplace settings. These bespoke workshops are tailored to the needs of the organisation. Enquiries to: bystander@ucc.ie



Apr '23: Professor Crowley delivered a Bystander Intervention Workshop at the Irish Medical Organisation's annual conference



Jun '23: Professor Crowley delivered a Bystander Intervention presentation at Apple's Inclusion & Diversity week

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION PROGRAMME ROLLOUT ACROSS THE HE SECTOR

The HEA funded a pilot enabling all HE Institutions to access the programme. This led to demand across the sector to embed this critical intervention programme as part of their strategy in addressing sexual violence and harassment.

'Train the Trainer' sessions are available to those who wish to run in-person Bystander Intervention workshops within their institutions. For further information please contact: bystander@ucc.ie

National and International impact



Apr '23: Professor Crowley was invited to speak at the launch of the NWCI ESHTe Good Practice Guide which supports institutional implementation of the Framework to End Sexual Harassment and Violence at Third Level.



May '23: Professor Crowley on Ireland AM discussing the everyday normalisation of sexual harassment and the need for an all of society response with Tommy Bow, Muireann O'Connell and Aoife Moore.



Jun '23: Professor Crowley receives Special Merit Award at Irish Law awards 2023 for her Bystander Intervention work.



Jun '23: Professor Crowley chaired the launch of the National Womens Council and Dept of Justice powerful report on the Intersection of the Criminal Justice, Private Family Law and Public Law Child Care Processes in relation to Domestic and Sexual Violence.



Sept '23: Professor Crowley presented at a roundtable in Monash University in Prato, Italy critically assessing international policy responses to violence against women and femicide.



Nov '23: Professor Crowley presented at the UniSAFE GBV conference at the University of Namur, Belgium on addressing sexual harassment and violence at third level. Pictured with Suzanne Walker, Senior Executive Officer, HEA

Thank you for reading our newsletter, which captures the highlights of 2023

To follow our work more closely, please check us out on our socials.

The following is a link to the resources page on our website where you can read our impact reports and listen to the programme Director Professor Louise Crowley's extensive media coverage during 2023

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/bystander/resources/>

Contact us: bystander@ucc.ie



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UCC Bystander Intervention



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