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Survey:

Don't miss your last chance to complete COSHARE survey of HEI Staff by clicking below.

https://nuigalwaybusiness.fra1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dg0czHbGTf4foyi

If you've already completed the survey, please share them among your colleagues to include everyone's voice in the conversation.

Issue Number Three.

Welcome to our third issue of the COSHARE Network Newsletter, and our first of 2024! It's been so encouraging watching the exchange of knowledge within the network from like-minded people working in SVH prevention, and the best is yet to come, with our next in-person event on **March 11th and 12th** (more info below).

In this issue we'll be sharing a piece by our network Co-Chair Dr. Pádraig MacNeela (University of Galway) on the NASPA Culture of Respect conference in San Francisco, a TedTalk given in Stormont by our Co-Chair Dr. Susan Lagdon (Ulster University) on the topic of coercive control, and a reflection by Eva O'Byrne (Active*Consent, University of Galway) on the Active*Alumni reunion event.

We'll also be sharing some exciting opportunities and resources for our members. There's a lot to see so let's dive in!

International Prevention and Support Networks: Different Cultures, Similar Goals for Culture Change

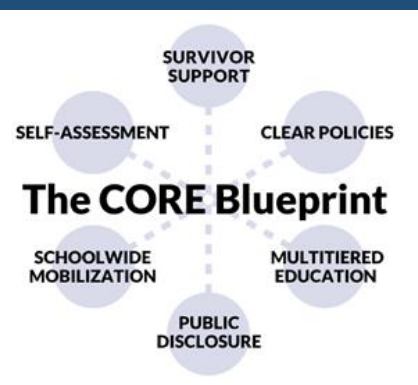
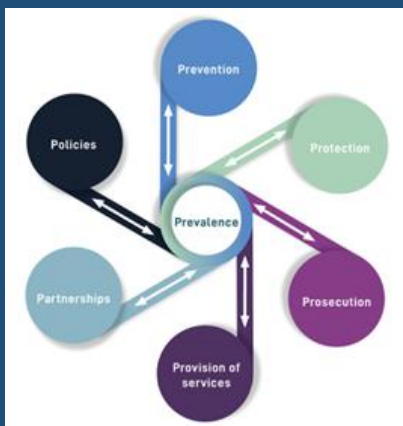
The visit by members of the Active* Consent team to the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) 'Strategies' Conference in January allowed us to learn from Title IX coordinators, consent promotion and survivor support programmes across the US. It also introduced us to the Culture of Respect programme, which has engaged 150 US universities since 2013 (<https://www.naspa.org/project/culture-of-respect>).

The Culture of Respect highlights six pillars in its Core Blueprint (left, bottom), namely: Survivor support, clear policies, multi-tiered education, public disclosure, institutional mobilisation, and self-assessment.

Comparing the NASPA priorities with the DFHERIS (2019) 'Consent Framework' and the UK Office of Students (2021) 'Statement of Expectations', we can see remarkable overlap between the goals of researchers, practitioners, academics, and administrators across Ireland, the UK and the US.

Moreover, the 7P conceptual framework (left, top) introduced by the EU UniSAFE culture change programme provides another roadmap that gets us to the same destination of sustainable culture change (<https://unisafe-gbv.eu/gendersafe/>).

We also find practitioners and researchers naming the same challenges to putting this vision into practice. It is encouraging that different agencies reach similar conclusions about Higher Education fulfilling its potential to lead society toward zero tolerance and a culture of consent, in particular the similar commitment and passion for the journey to achieve these goals - Pádraig



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Job Advertisement:

UCC is recruiting a social media assistant to assist with the rollout of our very exciting Safe & Sound program. Please see the job description and details below and share with any interested parties that know their way around TikTok and are comfortable making content addressing SVH.

Search Ref. No 074651)
https://my.corehr.com/pls/uccrecruit/erg_search_package.search_form?p_company=5023&p_internal_external=E

Coercive Control: Do you know what it means?

Many of us will know or have heard of someone who has been in an unhealthy or abusive relationship.

Often, we hear 'why won't they leave' or 'I wouldn't put up with that' from those on the outside looking in. But few consider two other questions: how do you become a victim of intimate partner violence? And can you identify an unhealthy or abusive relationship even when there is no physical violence? Our network Co-chair Dr Susan Lagdon has been researching victim and survivor experiences of intimate partner violence for almost a decade and in this TedTalk explores the insights on these questions following her research and personal reflections as a daughter and mother. [Click here to watch.](#)



Active*Alumni Re-Connected

On the 26th of January, the Active* Consent team was delighted to welcome many of you to the first "Active* Alumni Network Meeting", a day which brought together graduates of the Level 9 CPD module *Consent, Sexual Violence and Harassment: Practitioner Skills and Practice*, in addition to those who had completed First Point of Contact Training. Now in its seventh run, the module has trained over 100 practitioners around the country.

The meeting on the 26th provided an opportunity for us to hear first-hand about all of the valuable work our colleagues are doing around Ireland, in a variety of spheres such as education, the Naval Services, NGOs and politics. Throughout the day we heard from a range of attendees through some fantastic oral presentations, poster presentations, and a panel discussion. They shared the various ways they have been using Active* Consent resources, such as creating communities of student Active* Champions or organising First Point of Contact training for their colleagues. We ended the day with a group consultation for future plans and shared goals.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, and we look forward to further collaborations and events in the future as we continue to grow our Active* Alumni community – Eva



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Meet the Members: Naomi Sosa

What do you do?

Research and Policy Advisor – Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Team (EVAWG) – The Executive Office.



Why do you do it?

I have been involved in gender-based violence prevention work in different countries over the last 20 years and I am passionate about working towards a world where women and girls can thrive and live a life without violence, abuse and harm. Being involved in the policy and research aspect of this within government in NI provides an opportunity to work with those who have incredible experience and insight from different sectors across society to develop a strategy together that will make a real difference for the lives of women and girls.

What are you working on at the moment?

It is a very varied landscape of work! At present I am involved in bringing together inputs and recommendations from the public consultation on the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategic Framework and preparing the final document ahead of consideration by Ministers. Another part of my work at present is looking at promising practice relating to VAWG, especially in relation to prevention and work with children and young people as well as starting to develop an EVAWG research programme to inform the implementation of the Framework going forward.

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Meet the Members: Suzanne Walker

What do you do?

I'm the HEA's Senior Executive Officer for Ending Sexual Violence and Harassment (ESVH). I'm based in the Centre of Excellence for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the HEA, where I oversee and support the implementation of the [national policy framework on ESVH](#) in higher education institutions and the [ESVH Implementation Plan](#). I also currently chair the ESVH Practitioner Network.

Why do you do it?

My role is challenging but extremely rewarding. My background is in international development and human rights work, where I focused on women and girls' rights and addressing gender-based violence (GBV). I've also worked on preventing and responding to GBV for Tusla in Ireland. It's an issue that I'm very passionate about! GBV is pervasive in our society and has devastating consequences, but it is preventable. GBV is not unique to this sector of course, but I believe that advancing progress in higher education and research has the potential to catalyse wider, sustainable change in our society. I feel privileged to work on this issue and to liaise with so many dedicated and inspiring individuals on a daily basis.

What are you working on at the moment?

Several! We've recently received annual progress reports from all HEIs so I'm analysing those. We will shortly commission qualitative research which no doubt be very insightful. I'm aiming to develop further guidance for HEIs on recording data on incidences of SVH in the coming months, and I'm supporting the establishment of new governance and operational structures for the Speak Out Anonymous Reporting tool. Not to mention progressing several of the actions in the ESVH Implementation Plan.



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March Event Announcement:

“Elevating Voices, Eliminating Violence: Advancing Evidence Based Strategies for SVH Prevention in Higher Education”

March 11th and 12th, at the University of Galway

Across the event, members of our team and experts will give provide sessions on:

- Disclosure Management
- Establishing shared standards in training
- Identifying core principles and peer education
- The Charter approach to culture change

We also will be giving our network members the opportunity to showcase the research and outreach being done in the field of C-SVH through a lunchtime poster presentation.

Register to attend at this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/CvrJMm967w>

Looking forward to seeing you there!