

J20-21 A motion to mandate Got Consent Leadership Training for Society Committees

Owner: Elise Lenzi

In Effect From: 1 September 2021

Review Date: 1 November 2021

It is noted that:

1. Got Consent has provided workshops for the past 4 years, for at least 2,000 students a year.
2. Got Consent currently provides Leadership Trainings to many society committees, approximately 80 from August-November 2020.
3. The Leadership Trainings are approximately one hour long.
4. The Leadership Trainings can be delivered either online or in person.
5. The Leadership Trainings are updated every year.
6. Under 20 students opted out of the Got Consent training, which was part of matriculation for approximately 9,000 students, even though everyone was presented with this option.
7. The AU has had mandatory Got Consent training for 3 years. Sports clubs have been very positive about attending this training, and it has not led to the disaffiliation of any clubs.
8. The Societies Committee's affiliation process and training does not currently mention any form of GotConsent training.
9. The SSC Societies Officer polled the "Your Society Presidents" Facebook page, asking "Would you be a proponent of having GotConsent Leadership Training a mandatory part of re-affiliation? Why or why not?," and a certifiable majority voiced their support of a mandatory/strongly suggested GotConsent Leadership Training.

It is believed that:

1. It is beneficial to have committees and student leaders attend this training.
2. Student leaders will gain knowledge on consent, bystander intervention, leadership responsibilities, and University resources.
3. This will make leaders more confident in knowing how to deal with situations of misconduct within their organizations or at events they are hosting.
4. Student leaders who have attended the training have expressed a belief that it is helpful.
5. These workshops are voluntarily attended by approximately 80 committees already, so this motion would mostly function to formalize this and ensure that this practice continues into the future and does not depend on current leadership.
6. The Got Consent Committee has demonstrated a capacity to organize and run a sufficient number of trainings even when they are not mandatory. Making trainings mandatory would simplify the process for them as they would be able to schedule all the trainings in advance.

7. Some students cannot attend a training such as this for personal reasons, and there should be an opt-out procedure.
8. The inclusion of an opt-out procedure will not lead to many people opting out as this has always been an option, but people do not take advantage of this.
9. The addition of a mandatory training would not be an undue burden on clubs which might lead to disaffiliation

It is resolved to:

1. To mandate that the leadership of every society and subcommittee must participate in a Got Consent Leadership Training, following a trial period to ensure that this training would not lead to disaffiliation of any societies or other unintended consequences. The review date is set at the end of the trial period, in November 2021.
2. The trainings will be managed, organized, and facilitated by the Got Consent Committee, and not the SSC Societies Committee. Clubs will be able to sign up via a new online portal to streamline the process.
3. To mandate the Member for Gender Equality to work with Got Consent every year to review and update the trainings. This should occur between academic years, no later than July 31st.
4. To ensure that if a member of a committee has not undergone a training, their line manager will check in with them. This is to ensure that no one skips the training.
5. To establish an opt-out procedure whereby students who cannot attend the training may be excused without disclosing unnecessary personal information. They must simply state that they cannot attend the training due to personal reasons, and this will be sufficient.
6. Resolves 4 and 5 will be jointly overseen by the Member for Gender Equality and the Societies Officer.

Proposer

Elise Lenzi – Member for Gender Equality

Secunder

Dan Marshall - Association President
Emma Rose Walsh - Association Director of Wellbeing
Ananya Jain - Association BAME Officer
Anna Young - Association Community Relations Officer
Georgina Beeby - Association LGBT+ Officer
Avery Kitchens - SSC Societies Officer
Joe Horsnell - Art & Divinity Faculty President
Gabby Kyriakou - SRC Member for Student Health