

THE HOWL



SU president puzzled by 0 incidents of sexual harassment at City

By: Gursimran Hans

Following a Freedom of Information (FOI) request from The Howl, it has been revealed there were no reports of sexual misconduct at City university during the 2016-17 academic year.

The request was made after revelations in the press that **Cambridge University had received 173 anonymous reports from staff and students** in the nine months since setting up a new online form in May 2017.

An investigation from The Guardian last March found “epidemic” levels of sexual harassment at British universities.

A poll from Opinium revealed that 58% of women who have experienced workplace sexual misconduct did not report it to their company, for men it's 43%. This gives a national reporting rate of just 54%.

During the investigation, it was also found that City Students' Union's website did not appear to list a designated officer to deal with any complaints of sexual misconduct.

SU President Olesea Matcovschi, provided a statement on the findings: “I would say that I have mixed feelings about these findings since it might be either a very good thing, for instance, there might have been no cases of sexual misconduct in the last academic year, or it is a very bad thing, which, I guess, is more likely, since it might mean that people don't know how to report sexual misconduct or people do not feel comfortable in doing so.”

Matcovschi, pointed out that in January 2018, the Union created a new Wellbeing and Insight Coordinator role and that the SU caseworkers can also assist with these issues or refer students to the relevant bodies.

As a result of the findings, Matcovschi vowed to look at making the various procedures for reporting sexual misconduct at the university more transparent.

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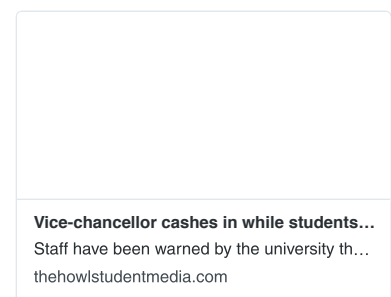
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Feb 22, 2018



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Currently, students can request support from [Support Services](#) or discuss the issue with a [Harassment Adviser](#) to assess their options.

City, University of London has been contacted for a response.

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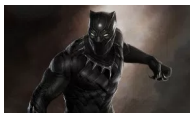


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December 2017 (15)
November 2017 (16)
October 2017 (17)
April 2017 (3)
March 2017 (13)
February 2017 (25)
January 2017 (23)
December 2016 (9)
October 2016 (1)

February 2018

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				
« Dec						