Our Goals

1. **Stimulate and support events/activities designed and implemented by graduate students** – Group Grant Award is intended to support the work of GSA groups formed by graduate students out of their mutual self-interest. We are looking for ideas that originate with a group of graduate students and that are being moved into action as a project, event, or activity. These events/activities should recognize, foster and reward academic excellence.

2. **Encourage new and stronger relationships between graduate students at the University of Cincinnati**
   We believe building relationships is key to transforming knowledge. Activities/events must have the potential to build and strengthen positive relationships at the University level.

3. **Support opportunities to develop community leadership, organizational capacity and build community capacity** – Group Grant Award is intended to help support graduate students to develop their leadership skills and to make clear the possibilities for what they can do when they come together.

What does “community building” mean?

This means creating a strong community together. By discovering local assets, connecting these assets to work together, and then creating opportunities for these assets to be productive and powerful together.

What does “capacity building” mean? Learning to do new things, taking on new challenges and doing things better is all a part of capacity building. When students learn a new skill or strategy and use it, they build their capacity.

Grant Evaluation Criteria

- The event/activity clearly promotes and supports academic excellence
- The event/activity is enjoyable and increases social connections between students
- The event/activity has received a strong endorsement
- The event/activity helps build the organizational capacity of the GSA group(s)
- The event/activity builds student leadership capacity
- The event/activity takes advantage of the many assets in the community
- The event/activity has a clear budget