How To Write a Strong Community Building Grant

Penny Warren, Senior Specialist, Student Life
# Three Types of TGS Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Community Building Grant</th>
<th>Professional Development Grant</th>
<th>Catalyst Grant</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deadline</strong></td>
<td>May 15th, October 15 (for GSAs)</td>
<td>July 7, 2014</td>
<td>Quarterly (check deadlines on website)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Audience</strong></td>
<td>TGS Students</td>
<td>Students, faculty, staff, postdocs</td>
<td>Students, faculty, postdocs, academic programs</td>
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<td><strong>Supports</strong></td>
<td>Interest-based, TGS student-run community building activities for peers that cut across existing departmental and programmatic lines and provide a unique opportunity to enhance graduate student life at the Institute with experiences outside the classroom and lab.</td>
<td>Programming/events that provide professional development relevant to preparation of grad students and postdocs for future careers.</td>
<td><strong>New</strong> programs and events that benefit graduate students (meant to CATALYZE vs. provide ongoing support).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Award Amount (maximum)</strong></td>
<td>Maximum of $3000</td>
<td>Maximum of $2000</td>
<td>Maximum of $3000</td>
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Dean’s Criteria for CB Grants

The TGS Community Building Grant program is designed to:

• Bring people together in a social context
• Integrate academic and social aspects of graduate life
• Improve communications and outreach
• Encourage creative expression through the arts
• Serve as a model for community building
Strategic Plan

THREE PILLARS

- Diversify
- Serve
- Engage
Student Life

Community Building Grants
• Professional development
• Recreation
• Cultural

Range of groups
• Explore the Impact of Photonics
• Cricket Club
• Mental Health Coffee Hour Series
• Swing Dancing Syndicate
Recent Community Building Grant Winners

**Professional Development**
- Advanced Degree Consulting Alliance
- Association for Women in Chemistry
- Brain Awareness Outreach
- Civically-Engaged Grads
- Colloquium for Critical Asian Studies
- Energy Technology Group
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Exploring Photonics
- Get-A-Grip Education Outreach
- Mental Health Mix & Mingle
- NU Society for Industrial and Applied Math
- Northwestern University For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (NUFIRST)
- SACNAS Student Chapter at NU (SaCNU)

**Cultural/Arts**
- Celebrating Indian Culture
- Graduate Christian Fellowship
- Graduate Student Cross-Cultural Communication Committee
- Graduate Women Across NU
- Iranian Student Association
- “Plant-it Purple” Graduate Gardens
- Improv Comedy Night
- Colloquium for Critical Asian Studies
- Graduate Student Group
- NU Graduate Canadian Club
- NU JOT: Northwestern University Jews
- Over Twenty-two
- SCIART Club
- Turkish Intercultural Club

**Recreation**
- Cricket Club
- Curling Club
- Grad 5K Run
CB Grant Deadline Submissions

• What do you plan to do, what did you do, how much did it cost?

• The deadline to submit a new proposal is May 15. If approved, we will release funds as early as mid-September.

• The deadline to submit a new proposal for graduate student associations only is October 15. If approved, we will release funds mid-November.
Student Life

Student Associations

- Graduate Student Association (GSA)
- Chicago Graduate Student Association (CGSA)
- Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA)
- Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA)
- Graduate Student Association for Latino and Spanish Activities (G-SALSA)
- Queer Pride Graduate Student Association (QPGSA)
- McCormick Graduate Leadership Council (MGLC)
Timely Report Submissions

- Interim reports are due **February 15** of each year. Continued funding depends on timely submission of year-end reports.

- Year-end reports from Community Building Proposal projects are due by May 31
Market CB Events

• Marketing and advertising your events is required and will help ensure attendance and success of programming.

• TGS Wire Contact, Emma Shipley, Communications Representative, at emma.shipley@northwestern.edu

• Welcome for first time participants
Attract New Members

- Resource fair at Orientation
- Fall informational meeting to recruit successors
- Year end executive board review to name successors
Recruit Successors

- Start Early, Ask Often – Fall Informational meeting
- Involve potential leadership in writing the interim and renewal reports
- Create organizational structure
- Interest first and second year students in your group’s leadership activities
- Make them successors-elect, have them shadow you for an entire year so they understand the process fully.
- Pass on key learnings to upcoming leadership
Curling Club Attendance

Session Month and Attendees

October 2010 | November | December | January | February | March 2012
32          | 27       | 25       | 23      | 22       | 23
22          | 20       | 17       | 13      | 12       | 13
17          | 10       | 13       | 13      | 17       | 17
2010 / 2011 Attendance Breakdown
(not including alumni event)

- Alumni (1)
- Applied Math (4)
- Cancer Center (1)
- Chemistry (5)
- Chemical Engineering (2)
- Civil Engineering (1)
- Continuing Studies (1)
- Creative Writing (1)
- Economics (5)
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (4)
- Family (2)
- Finance (1)
- Friend (7)
- Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences (2)
- Kellogg (19)
- Law (1)
- Mechanical Engineering (3)
- Medill (1)
- Materials Science and Engineering (16)
- Physics (1)
- Political Science (1)
- Speech Pathology (1)
- Spouse (3)
- Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (1)
- Unknown (4)
Strive to be Sustainable

Subsidize meals

Fundraise:

– Charge a small fee at most popular events
– Ask for sponsors

Collaborate with other groups

Include Quarterly TGS Night/Day Outs as one of your social events
WildCat Connection

TGS Funded Groups
Easy communication
One place to enter reports and upload budgets
Upload additional information