



RESEARCH PILLAR: Research Working Groups

The Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity & Equity (CRE²) sponsors Research Working Groups (RWGs) to support research on questions of race and ethnicity. The goal of RWGs is to incubate and generate intellectual exchange, facilitate deeper and broader understandings of the research topic, and catalyze innovative ideas about the research area. RWGs may be designed to explore potential collaborations among the group members (e.g., for grants, monographs, anthologies, or conferences; to gain a foothold on the current state of a field and potential research, data, and knowledge gaps; to deepen understanding of and develop new vocabularies for current issues or scholarly literatures; to do preliminary work to design a larger CRE² proposal).

CRE² sponsors two kinds of RWGs. The first are CRE² initiated, based on topical themes that are updated biennially. The second are Scholar initiated. Although CRE² provides templates for RWGs, scholars can propose alternate formats.

CRE² will provide RWGs financial support and meeting space. This includes the following:

- Assistance in securing a physical space in which the working group and its events can convene;
- Support for reasonable expenses **up to \$2,000** including reading materials, photocopies, refreshments, assistance in publicizing the RWG deliverables; and
- **Up to \$500** for a graduate student coordinator to assist with RWG coordination. Graduate students may be asked to reserve rooms, schedule meetings, acquire materials, and provide research support. RWGs must follow University guidelines regarding the hourly rate for graduate students.

RWGs are valued for incubating ideas and generating debate and research about race and ethnicity. We see them as a helpful initial engagement with CRE² and one that may help to build the teams and templates to make larger funding or other requests.

To share tangible results from RWG exchanges, all groups must submit the following:

- An end-of-year one-page report that details the group's goals and accomplishments that will be included in the CRE² archives and will help us evaluate our RWG initiative:
 - Did you accomplish your stated goals? Why or why not?
 - How did the RWG evolve?
 - What did you find most beneficial about the RWG?
 - What did you find most difficult or the least valuable about the RWG? Please provide a detailed budget proposal for how funds will be used (e.g., modest honoraria to defray a speaker's travel expense, film rental, food)

- A 200-word end-of-year summary showcasing RWG outcomes for the CRE² website

Eligibility

- Any CRE² Faculty Affiliate may apply for an RWG. The composition of the team is set out below. Postdocs, graduate and professional students, and trainees are welcome to apply with a Faculty Affiliate sponsor.
- The RWGs may include part-time faculty at Washington University; students, postdocs, and trainees at Washington University; non-Washington University faculty and students; and St. Louis community members. A proposed list of RWG members will be submitted with the application and a final list with the final report.
- RWGs may be renewed one time, by demonstrating outcomes and submitting the requisite paperwork.

Composition

RWGs must be composed of at least three people, one of whom must be a CRE² Faculty Affiliate at the time of the application, although preference may be given to more robust groups. RWGs may also include students, faculty members from other institutions, non-academic researchers and practitioners, and community members. The individuals who submit the application will be responsible for managing the group and submitting requisite updates and documentation.

Structure

RWGs would ideally meet twice a month, at a minimum once a month, for at least one semester. The group may continue for two semesters, after which groups may reapply for working group status up to one time.

Application Process

Proposals are due for the first round of RWGs by **December 1, 2021**. Proposals should be submitted via email to cre2@wustl.edu with the subject heading "2021 CRE² Research Working Group Submission." Announcements will be made in January 2022.