



# The Program on Intergroup Relations

## THE POWER

The mission of the Program on Intergroup Relations (IGR) is social justice through education. To that end, our vision is not only to help today's students become skilled in intergroup relations through engaged learning and leadership opportunities, but also to give them experience in conducting innovative research on intergroup and social justice education. By providing multiple types of opportunities for students to explore topics and build their skills, we seek to develop conscious, compassionate, and engaged world citizens who lead others in creating a more socially just world.



## THE OPPORTUNITIES

IGR courses empower students to create a welcoming campus culture and society by developing students' understanding of social identities, intergroup dynamics, and power and privilege, while developing unique skills in community building, facilitation, effective communication, and ally hood. IGR's initial philosophy was to advance student understanding of and respect for diversity and to augment student skills in the area of intergroup relations and managing conflict between social identity groups. The central goal of the program was, and still is, for students to be engaged proactively to learn about the complexities of living in a multicultural society. The program offers a variety of intergroup dialogues as well as courses on intergroup relations and social justice, co-curricular programs, and consultation services.

## THE IMPACT

In order to take IGR to the next level, we need to invest in the program. We seek funding to provide resources for student training, a research fund for undergraduates and graduate students to pursue study of intergroup dynamics, and to strengthening IGR courses and curriculum.

### **Research Support**

***\$20,000 annually***

IGR strives to provide undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to conduct innovative research on intergroup relations and social justice education, using a student empowerment model. This research provides important information on the outcomes of intergroup dialogues and social justice education, while training students in leadership and research skills. Research results also help to continuously improve our social justice and intergroup dialogue programs for future students. To this end, IGR would like to secure funding for undergraduate and graduate research assistants and for a student research coordinator (data manager). A gift of \$20,000 would support several research assistants and one research coordinator.

### **Student Peer Facilitator Training**

***\$10,000 annually***

IGR offers a two-day retreat for all students training to be dialogue facilitators, as well as a retreat for facilitators in our practicum class. Securing this funding would enable IGR to ensure a robust, intensive, educational experience for these students as they launch into each phase of their journey within the IGR experience. Through dialogue facilitation training opportunities such as these retreats, we aim to educate and empower students in ways that help them become engaged global citizens and leaders in working toward a more just society.



## **IGR Strategic Fund**

***\$10,000 annually***

Gifts to the IGR Strategic Fund would help strengthen IGR's academic opportunities in a number of ways including:

- Developing additional IGR courses
- Broadening the scope of knowledge by sponsoring guest lecturers and faculty affiliates
- Implementing innovative pedagogical approaches
- Leveraging new, cutting-edge classroom technologies
- Imparting an even greater understanding of intergroup relations and social justice by bringing new faculty to IGR who can enhance and fortify the curriculum.

### ***WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT***

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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### **CONTACT INFO**

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