

# Goals of the Network



# Network Goals

You are supporting your institution's commitment to excellent graduate programs. We're here to help!

- ✓ Fostering an exclusive community of practice for the people who make graduate programs work at CIC member institutions
- ✓ Leading deep dives into essential topics — so you can surface with practical solutions
- ✓ Sharing expertise (from practitioners, peers, and vendors)
- ✓ Offering guidance on how to *manage* programs — but also *advocate* for your graduate programs (with Boards, faculty, the executive team, other stakeholders)
- ✓ Shaping the future of graduate education at independent colleges through conversation and best practices

# How the Network Operates



# Operational Logistics

1. Typically, a three-month arc (“deep dive”) on a key topic
2. You’ll get planning details for each arc about a month before it starts, finalizing the focus areas and suggesting who else to invite from campus
3. Invite links will be shareable with the appropriate colleagues on campus; typically, these colleagues will join us for the whole arc
4. Sessions will be recorded and shared afterwards
5. Arcs will include live sessions, resources, optional take-home work, community interactions, tool-building, and open office hours



# Deep Dives (Programming Arcs) for 2026/27

1. Understanding the Market for Graduate Programs (May-July 2026)
2. From Market to Marketing to Enrollment (July-Sept. 2026)
3. Structures, Stakeholders, and Governance (Oct.-Dec. 2026)
4. Special Topic TBD (short winter term!)
5. Care, Support, and Retention of Graduate Students
6. Inside the Black Box: Faculty, Curriculum, and Evaluation



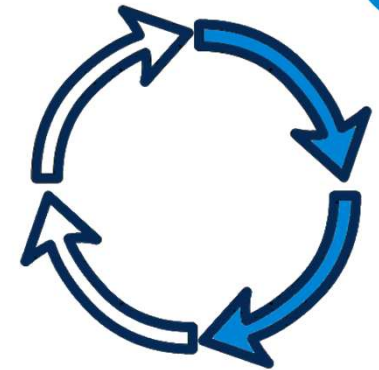
# A Typical Month

## Week 1: Introduction to the Topic

- Background readings/resources
- A short introductory video
- Information-gathering

## Week 2: Virtual Program (Webinar/Workshop)

- Usually a two-hour block on a Wednesday afternoon (3:00–5:00 p.m. ET)
- Expert and/or peer presentation
- Hands-on, practical exercise
- Breakouts by institutional focus (launching grad programs vs. sustaining grad programs — or other appropriate clusters)



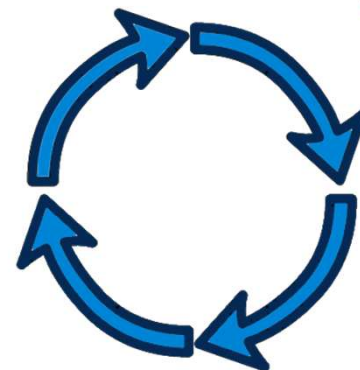
# A Typical Month

## Week 3: Follow-up

- Review the recording of the virtual meeting (if you missed it)
- Continue the workshop “homework” (if any)
- Crowd-sourcing: best practices document and/or resource list
- A good time to meet with campus colleagues

## Week 4: Office Hours

- Semi-structured time to meet with facilitator and peers to discuss specific issues facing your institution
- Could include a demonstration by a sponsor and/or a time to meet with vendors’ reps





Learn more at  
[\*www.cic.edu/gradnetwork\*](http://www.cic.edu/gradnetwork)

Contact Phil Katz at [\*pkatz@cic.edu\*](mailto:pkatz@cic.edu)

