

Virtual Senior Center Committee

Mission:

To provide homebound seniors, members of Self-Help Senior Services, with stimulating and challenging educational experiences led by members of the IRP using online interactive technology.

Activities:

The IRP, together with the New School for Public Engagement, provides a series of weekly virtual classes using a program similar to Skype for homebound seniors who are members of Self-Help Senior Services.

There are approximately eight sessions per semester, each led by a different IRP member. The subject of each session is proposed by the IRP member/facilitator and lasts from forty-five minutes to an hour, conducted in the IRP office.

Committee members meet informally to discuss planning and other business. The committee members recruit the IRP facilitators and oversee the sessions. At least one committee member attends each weekly online session.

The effectiveness of the program is evaluated by the feedback received from the homebound seniors who take part in the sessions and from reports of the IRP members who participate.

Committee Membership - Skills and Experience:

Some computer technical ability is desirable, but not required. Committee members should be willing to recruit online session facilitators and attend online sessions in rotation with other committee members.

Committee Selection Process:

The Committee may have up to four members. Currently there are no term limits.

Committee members are chosen by the Committee Chairperson in consultation with the Committee members and the Director. Announcements of openings for Committee membership, along with instructions on how to apply, are posted in the IRP Observer and on the IRPZine.