

Mentors

Mission:

Mentors provide new IRP members with guidance for navigating the IRP, encouragement to become involved in IRP activities, attend general meetings, and participation in other IRP events, as well as guidance in the study group registration process.

Activities:

The mentor facilitators identify appropriate mentors for each new member based on factors such as similar backgrounds of the mentor and mentee including professional background, special interests, avocations or other common experiences.

The facilitators maintain a working relationship with the Admissions Committee to identify the mentoring needs of new members.

The Committee provides guidelines to mentors that describe their role and responsibilities in mentoring new members. The facilitator(s) follow-up with mentors and mentees to assess the effectiveness of the mentoring.

Mentors serve for only one semester although the contact can continue informally.

Mentor - Skills and Experience:

Mentors should be willing to reach out to the new member and make her/him feel welcome.

Mentors should be familiar with IRP procedures (e.g., registration, committee structure, etc.), be able to answer questions about courses constructively, meet with the mentee before the semester begins and, if possible, encourage the new member to get involved in IRP activities.

Mentor Selection Process:

Mentors serve for the mentees first semester in the IRP. The mentor facilitators serve for two years.

Mentors are chosen by the mentor facilitator(s) in consultation with the liaison from the Admissions Committee and the Director. Announcements of openings for mentors, along with instructions on how to apply, are posted in the IRP Observer and on the IRPZine each semester.