



# District Leader

## Biographical Information

Candidate's Name:

Candidate's Office:  District Number:

Toastmasters member since:

Education:

**BS in Computer Science, University of Michigan; MS in Software Engineering, Santa Clara; MBA from Berkeley Haas; Certified Sommelier - International Culinary Center; Certificates in Product Management - Berkeley Exec Ed and Digital Photography - Berkeley Extension**

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

**Please find list of offices held and terms of service on attached spreadsheet.**

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

**I completed Competent Communicator when a member of Willow Glen TM in 2011; I completed the Visionary Communication path in 2023 and am on track to complete Strategic Relationships and DTM requirements by the end of this calendar year. My home club achieved President's Distinguished status while I was president in 2022 - 2023.**

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

**My most relevant work experience was from during the time I managed a dispersed team of software developers. I made sure to have regular team meetings, making sure to communicate company objectives and how the work of each team member fits into them. This helped my team stay motivated, even throughout layoffs and acquisitions, with my team having the lowest attrition rate.**

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

**When in software development, I created numerous detailed plans for developing and launching of new products. During my time in the wine industry, I had the privilege of collaborating with all teams to plan venue-wide marketing efforts for The Mountain Winery, with a focus on how to raise awareness of the wine loyalty program and to create synergy among all business units.**

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

**When a software development manager I was involved in the budgeting for my development projects, including leading build vs. buy decisions and allocating team resources across projects. In the wine industry, I was responsible for ensuring events at the winery were profitable, and restructured the wine club to minimize operating costs and maximize customer value.**

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

When in software, I initiated and led a cross-functional team that collaborated to create and institutionalize software development best practices, including change management and inter-team communication. At Cooper-Garrod, I devised and communicated various operational procedures, including preparations for blending trials and bottling, which also involved multiple teams.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I remember being hesitant to take on the AD role, because I would be responsible for corporate clubs, which I had no experience in. I learned that I should not be afraid to fail and be up for any challenge. Even if things don't go perfectly, I know that in the end, I will have made a difference.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

In my years of experience being a club officer, and now Area Director, I've learned best practices and want to lead a team of Area Directors in helping to make sure that each club is excelling. At a personal level, I really enjoy being a part of District 101, and want to take on more leadership challenges to help us grow and excel.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

I understand that the District's mission is to build new clubs and help existing clubs achieve excellence. I am in the PR planning stage for a new club that I hope to sponsor. For existing clubs, I promise to monitor the dashboard closely, and to support the Area Directors to help each club in achieving DCP goals, for example helping with workshops and speaking at open houses.

Additional information about yourself:

To borrow from the core values from my alma mater, Berkeley Haas, I believe that I exemplify "Student Always" and "Confidence Without Attitude." During my time in Toastmasters, I make it a point to be continually learning. This helps me tremendously as a leader to be open-minded, to give and receive constructive feedback, and to keep developing my capabilities.