



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Milind Patwardhan**

Candidate's Office: **Program Quality Director** District Number: **125**

Toastmasters member since: **October 2011**

Education:

BE(Mechanical), MBA (IIMB)

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

Club Growth Director -July 22 to June 23
Division Director - July 21 to June 22
Area Director - July 20 to June 21
Club President - Jan 20 to June 20
Club VPED -July 19 to Dec 19
Treasurer -July 18 to June 19

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

CC,CL, ACB
DTM
Smedley District Club Growth Director Award

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

I have about 37 years of work experience - 2 years as a Production Supervisor, 8 years in front line sales/B to B sales, 2 years as EA to a Board Director of TATA Motors in India, Further 24 years in Middle East in Product Management, Field sales, B to C, B to B sales etc. For almost 12 years I was the head of a Automotive franchise with P and L responsibility. In this stint I was responsible for all workings of a franchise including Sales, Production Management, Inventory Control, Govt Liaison, Dealing with foreign Principals(from EU, Far East), Recruitment, Training, Performance Appraisals, Management reporting, Budgeting etc. I initially reported to the Franchise CEO and for the last five years to the Group CEO and Chairman. Since my retirement from Professional service I have been into Leadership training , associated with a non profit organisation based in USA as a Master Trainer and Outreach Manager. As a part of my job as a franchise head I was closely involved in organising many high profile events attended by foreign dignitaries, senior Corporate and Govt officials.

As a PQD my role will involve strategizing and planning to ensure the District excels in implementing the Toastmasters education program with topmost quality through timely , proactive and effective steps. Training of District officers and Club Excom , empowering them to further train the club members by providing them the direction , tools and motivation is the core job of a PQD. I feel that my extensive experience as an Executive in various capacities, my academic qualifications , my present occupation as a Master trainer/facilitator, and my attitude as a servant leader will hold me in good stead while performing as a PQD

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

The last 15 years of my professional experience , as well as the two years as EA to a Board Director were primarily focussed on Product, Market, Distribution and P and L strategies. The strategic initiatives included strategies to enhance sales, market share, customer satisfaction, employee motivation and enhancing top line and bottom line performance. As a PQD my focus will be on strategizing for member retention, enhancing club quality, ensuring quality delivery of the TI education program and helping the District excel in the District recognition program of TI. My professional experience in developing and implementing strategies described above will help me in my role as PQD

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I have basic familiarity with budgeting. I also have reasonable knowledge of banking, auditing. etc. As a CGD I was closely involved with the District budgeting exercise.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

You will note from my professional experience that I have extensively worked on dealing with situations which involve planning, setting procedures, getting stake holder acceptance, monitoring, reviewing , modifying procedures based on circumstances. In my role as a Training facilitator I am involved in setting procedures. Moreover for the last 4 years in various District leader positions too I have been involved in knowing , setting, reviewing Toastmasters procedures. This approach and experience came in very handy as a CGD when we set various new procedures as our District as very new.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Every leadership position has taught me varying lessons and the learning continues. As a professional the leadership positions taught me how to survive and flourish in a competitive environment. It also taught me how to deal with seniors. The two years as a Club leader and the last four years as a District leader has helped me evolve as a Servant leader with increasing focus on Empathy, Empowerment, Developing resources, Delegation without shunning responsibility, Listening to understand, Emotional intuitivity, Self awareness all leading to a good understanding of the TI values of Integrity, Respect, Service and Excellence

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

A District leaders role is to be an interface between the clubs/club members and TI in order to implement the TI mission of " We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders". The TI education program of Pathways has to be promoted in its true spirit. We have to therefore strive to do this through District level procedures, policies, programs, incentives, training initiatives etc. As a Division director and then as a CGD I have strived to play this role and feel have meet with reasonable success. I took a break this year as my family priorities became more important. I would now like to continue this effort in the role of a PQD. I also feel that at present I am better suited for this role due to my experience (professionally and at Toastmasters), my ability to take initiatives, ability to build and grow a network, aptitude and attitude to build a team and take the team forward, and firm commitment to uphold Toastmasters values.

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

The District mission is " We build new clubs and help all clubs achieve excellence". A PQD can play a very important role in contributing to this mission by timely, proactive and good quality interventions to effectively reach the Toastmasters education program to the members of the District. These interventions happen through the two DOTPs, two TLTPs as well as monitoring of contest quality, pathways adoption monitoring, monitoring of the DCP program and organising the District conference. Besides these standard interventions I also plan to have high quality education sessions, leadership training programs, arranging events to add value to District officers and club members etc. They say Quantity follows Quality. By these measures to ensure and enhance Program Quality , I as a PQD plan to contribute to the District's mission.

Additional information about yourself:

I am rearing to take up the role of a PQD after taking a sabbatical for a year, During this year I joined two other Districts to study the best practices they follow to enhance Program Quality. My stint as a CGD has also provided me with a perspective on the important role a PQD can play in helping the CGD and DD. I have attended two International conventions and this has given me a good view of the Toastmasters program. I would like to bring all this experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to the District in the role of a PQD.