



TOASTMASTERS AT PURDUE NEWSLETTER

April 2017

Club #4685166 Toastmasters at Purdue Executive Committee

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Toastmasters at Purdue members attend District 11 Spring Conference

By Jennifer Merzdorf

Several members of the Toastmasters at Purdue club recently attended the District 11 Spring Conference.

Hosted by Division C, the conference was held on Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Indianapolis.

This year's conference focused on the District 11 theme, *New Horizons: Being the Leader You Know You Are*, and featured keynote speaker Magnus Jansson, DTM, International Director, Region 5.

Hallie Bryant (*right*), basketball icon, Indiana's *Mr. Basketball*, Indiana University standout, and 27-year player for the Harlem Globetrotters, received the Communication and Leadership award during the luncheon on Saturday. Bryant is a motivational speaker sharing his concepts on leadership, sportsmanship, and academic excellence.



Attendees included: Arun Girdhar, Division G Director; Korina Wilbert, Area 71 Director; Gabriela Nagy, Toastmasters at Purdue President; Amy Mueller, Toastmasters at Purdue member; Jennifer Merzdorf, Toastmasters at Purdue VP Public Relations, Secretary. Not pictured: Kristyn Childres, VP Membership. Conference photos by Steve Clevenger.



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Fellow Toastmasters,

I joined Toastmasters at Purdue Club in May 2015 with hopes that I would enhance my public speaking skills. I didn't realize then how much more Toastmasters has to offer!

Everyone knows that Toastmasters can help with public speaking, but the leadership skills you acquire when taking on roles at regular meetings are the cherry on the top of an ice cream! These are important and valuable skills we use on a daily basis. Continue to develop these skills every week, but I also challenge you to develop them even further and take them to the next level. Take on an officer role for the next Toastmasters year and watch your leadership skills grow exponentially.

Our club's new leadership team will be elected at the club business meeting on May 19, 2017, held during our weekly meeting time, and all seven officer positions are open. We need YOUR enthusiasm and commitment to excellence to lead our club from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Each officer position comes with different responsibilities and offers many opportunities to develop and practice different leadership skills. To learn more about a specific position, level of involvement and officer duties, please contact the current club officers. In addition to fulfilling their officer duties, club officers are expected to participate in Club Executive Committee meetings on a bi-monthly basis, and to attend officer training twice per year (typically in June and January). Being a club officer is a very fulfilling and rewarding leadership role that helps you learn invaluable new skills, and practice them in a safe environment. We, the current and former officers, are here to help and support you in this new role!

Which club officer will you be?

Gabriela Nagy

President

Toastmasters at Purdue



Join Us!

Toastmasters at Purdue is open to Purdue staff, students, faculty, retirees, alumni, and family members of these groups. We meet every Friday in Room 3059, Forney Hall of Chemical Engineering, on Purdue's West Lafayette campus. *Check our website to confirm location; at times we move our meetings due to room schedule conflicts.* Meetings are 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., and you are welcome to bring your lunch!

Welcome New Members

Welcome to the newest members of Toastmasters at Purdue! Each member makes our club unique and extraordinary!

Jun Fang–2/1

Simon Huang–2/1

I-Fan Lin–2/1

Brandon Bukowski–3/1

Pushkar Ghanekar–3/1

Rebecca Glucksman–3/1

Melissa Martin–4/1

Amy Mueller–4/1

Congratulations to Toastmasters at Purdue club members



President Gabriela Nagy to serve as Division G Director

Congratulations to Toastmasters at Purdue President **Gabriela Nagy**. Nagy was nominated and elected to serve as Division G Director during the Business Meeting of the District 11 Spring Conference on Saturday, April 22. Nominated by Arun Giridhar, current Div. G Director, Nagy ran uncontested for the position. She will assume her responsibilities as Division G Director in July 2017.

As Division Director, Nagy is looking forward to serving all members in Division G, help them set challenging goals and provide them with opportunities to reach their personal goals. She noted, "I am also looking forward to working with the new Area Directors and club leadership teams to ensure excellence in all clubs in the division and a healthy, positive and rewarding Toastmasters journey for all current and future members."

Jennifer Merzdorf represents Division G in Evaluation Contest at Spring Conference

Toastmasters at Purdue member **Jennifer Merzdorf** represented Division G in the District 11 Speech Evaluation Contest on Friday, April 21. She reached the competition by winning the Division-level contest on March 18, the area-level contest on Feb. 18, and the club-level contest on Jan. 30. Though she did not win the recent competition, Merzdorf said the Evaluation Contest was a positive experience. She explains, "I was excited to participate at this level, and especially pleased to represent our club during the Spring Conference."



TOASTMASTERS AT PURDUE ACHIEVES SELECT DISTINGUISHED STATUS

By reaching 8 out of 10 goals by April 18, our club has achieved Select Distinguished Club status. Conference attendees were honored at a reception during the District 11 Spring Conference. Congratulations to all club members!

Korina Wilbert co-leads advanced education session at Spring Conference

Toastmasters at Purdue club member and Area 71 Director **Korina Wilbert** (*right*) co-led an Advanced Session at the District 11 Spring Conference on Saturday, April 22. Together with Maggie Potrikus (*left*), VP Public Relations of Westfield Toastmasters, Wilbert presented *How Do We Let Them Know We Are Here?*

The session was filled to capacity, and covered successful strategies to build club awareness and attract visitors with print and digital media.



The Toastmasters International Club Mission

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

Toastmasters at Purdue club news

Save the Date!

Toastmasters at Purdue Elections scheduled for May 19

Our club will hold elections for 2017-2018 on May 19 during our regular meeting. Be sure to read President Gabriela Nagy's message on page 2 as you consider running for office.

Club welcomes special guest to meeting

Toastmasters at Purdue was pleased to welcome special guest, fellow Toastmaster Christian Cruz. A resident of San Francisco, Cruz was visiting the Purdue campus and attended our regular club meeting on Friday, April 21. While attending, he practiced his International Speech Competition speech.

Pictured:
Toastmasters at Purdue President Gabriela Nagy (left) and Christian Cruz (right).



More photos from the 2017 District 11 Spring Conference April 21-22, Indianapolis, Indiana

