

DISTRICT LEADER (DILL) BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name: **Jose De la Rosa**

Candidate's Office: **Division Director** District Number: **55**

Toastmasters member since: **March 1, 2007**

Education:
BS Electrical Engineering - University of Texas, El Paso
MS Computer Engineering - University of Texas, El Paso

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:
 Secretary, Jul 2007 - Jun 2008, Toast of Dell
 Treasurer, Jan 2009 - Feb 2009, Toast of Dell
 Vice President Public Relations, Jul 2017 - Jun 2018, Dell Toastmasters
 Vice President Public Relations, Jul 2017 - Jun 2018, Dell Master Speakers
 Area L82 Director, Jul 2018 - Jun 2019

Toastmasters honors and recognition:
 CC - Mar 25, 2010 CL - Jan 6, 2017
 CC - Nov 7, 2014 ACS - Apr 16, 2018
 ACB - Nov 17, 2016 ALB - July 2, 2018

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District officer:
I have worked as a software engineer for over 20 years in several technology companies. In that time I've worked with teams of all sizes, lead difficult projects, driven complex problems to resolution and worked with many people with different personality styles to achieve common goals.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?
As a senior software engineer working in a high tech company, I work with new technologies and develop novel approaches to leverage those technologies to help our customers. I've been responsible for defining product roadmaps, setting expectations, organizing resources and executing action plans to make sure new products and solutions are delivered to customers with the highest quality in a timely manner and within budget.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?
Most of my experience has been focused on working with the financial resources that I am given and understanding the critical role of finance and budgeting in the overall success of an organization.

(Div-L)

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

As a software engineer it is part of my job to develop and document steps for solving difficult problems. This documentation is often intended for customers, so it's a requirement that all procedures be complete, but most importantly, that they be easy to implement to avoid any mistakes later on, which can be very costly in time and resources.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Sometimes we make mistakes, when that happens, own them, apologize to those who were affected and learn from the experience. Be humble, be responsible and always make yourself available to those you serve.

Why do you want to serve as a district officer?

It has been very rewarding serving as an Area Director and working with my clubs and its members achieve their goals. I want to continue serving the District, its clubs and members in a different capacity where my contributions will have a wider impact.

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

The district's major objectives are to support all club members in achieving excellence by developing communication and leadership skills. I believe I can help meet those objectives because I am deeply committed to making sure others gain the same skills and get the same benefits that I have received from the Toastmasters program.

Additional information about yourself:

The Toastmasters program has influenced my life in many ways. My communication and leadership skills have improved significantly and I have developed many friendships in my clubs and throughout the District. I've been involved in the Toastmasters program in many capacities: participated actively in both of my clubs, served as club officer, competed in and have chaired contests at the Area and Division levels, presented workshops at TLIs, and volunteered in District events as often as I could. I'm currently serving as Area Director, but my most rewarding role has been as a mentor watching my mentees advance through the program and gain confidence to become better communicators and better leaders.