



UTM
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA

UTM TOASTMASTERS CLUB

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Improve your English. Conquer your fear. Be the speaker and leader you were meant to be.

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About UTM Toastmasters Club

UTM Toastmasters Club (UTM TMC) is an in-house club first chartered on 7th May 2009 specifically for UTM staff. Since 2014, club membership is extended to UTM PhD candidates, and since 2017 it is also opened to UTM alumni and retirees.

Ever since, UTM Toastmasters Club has provided a great platform for all members to practice and improve their communications and leadership skills. The club's regular meetings were initially hosted by the Centre for Teaching and Learning, UTM. As the leadership baton was passed on to new hands, meetings were held at other venues in UTM, including the Professional Meeting Room in Office of Assets and Development, the Meeting Room of Faculty of Science Dean's Office, Physics Department Meeting Room at Faculty of Science and the Meeting Room in G07, Kolej Rahman Putra. Currently, UTM Toastmasters Club holds its meeting on every first and third Thursdays of the month at Seminar Room 1, Level 3, Language Academy, UTM JB. UTM TMC is one of the clubs in Area G3 and part of Division G under District 102.

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PREFACE

Generic skills are very essential in this world as it will promise the excellence of human being in any complex endeavours across all fields. The generic skills include communication, curiosity, leadership, flexibility, assertiveness, persistence, resilience, courage and creating. Among the top generic skills demanded by any company as listed by LinkedIn Learning are creativity, persuasion, collaboration and adaptability. All these skills are nurtured in UTM Toastmasters Club through the professional development module learning experience of Pathways.

The 11-module learning experience of Pathways designated to help build the competencies needed for its members to lead and communicate excellently. The Pathways learning experience allows UTM Toastmasters Club members to leverage over 300 practical workplace skills, including Interview Preparation, Project Management, Effective Networking, Time Management, Leadership Development and Conflict Resolution.

I feel warmed and proud to have UTM Toastmasters Club providing a supportive and positive learning experience in which empowered its members from Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities (FSSH) as well as UTM to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth. FSSH also shared two of the core values with Toastmasters International on integrity and excellence. The synergy of UTM Toastmasters Club with FSSH will definitely have an impact to the students and staff development locally and globally. Our faculty also highly acknowledge the commitment of the staff and students in putting their very own effort as a great investment in designing their career pathway.

This newsletter is the statement of the commitment and dedication to showcase the UTM Toastmasters Club achievements for the whole term. This newsletter translated into publication to bring more values to the members and the community of UTM in a whole. The DNA of UTM can be seen from the newsletter as it brings the members to go beyond the comfort zone. The faculty believe that it is important to equip UTM's staff and students with all the generic skills holistically. UTM Toastmasters Club is another important annex for Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities to thrive and realize the vision to be an outstanding centre for knowledge and talent advancement. Hence the advanced holistic talents not limited to FSSH can be developed and nurtured through this platform.

Congratulations UTM Toastmasters Club for unconditional commitment to drive its members to strive for excellence in communication and leadership. May this newsletter will inspire more UTM community to join and be part in the journey of personal and professional growth.



PROF. Ts. DR. ZAIDATUN TASIR
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia



Editor's Note

The newsletter of UTM Toastmasters Club was firstly introduced in 2016. This year marks the fourth year that this precious work is created, solely by the club members.

In this issue, readers will be able to explore the club's activities, achievements, as well as personal experiences of our beloved club members.

My sincerest gratitude to my team of editors: Yap Zhen Shyong, Dr Nina Diana, Nur Athirah Farhana and Dr Siti Zaleha, who spent their time and effort to edit and design the contents. You guys are definitely the definition of awesomeness!

And to all authors who put aside their routine for a while just to contribute their idea to this newsletter, thank you so much! Without all of you, this newsletter would never be a success!

Lastly, I sincerely hope that this newsletter will benefit everyone who reads it.

*Lots of Love,
Nurhidayah Zaid*

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Holla Toastmasters

CLUB PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

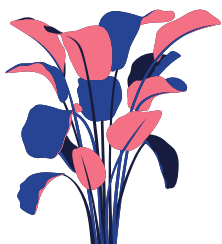
I was first introduced to UTM Toastmasters Club back in 2015, when i was a student. At that time, I was astonished as I entered the meeting room, everyone was smiling and gave such a warm welcome. In just 10 minutes, it appeared to me that UTM TMC meeting is not just a regular meeting. The meeting filled up with all the good laughter, support, encouragement and inspirational sharing by its member. Instantly, I was hooked up. What bugged me was, those coming to the meeting came from different walks of life, but they came with the same aims- which were to enjoy the meeting while improving themselves. Immediately, I felt the urgency to be part of such positive ambient.



The joy that members of UTM Toastmasters Club offers that warm and melt the heart of our guests

Fast forward to 2019/2020, the landscape of UTM Toastmasters Club has certainly transformed- way better. We are now have the familiar and new faces with new vibe of professionalism. Most importantly, everyone moving towards the same goals which are to improve and enjoy the journey. It is wonderful to observe that everyone gives their commitment in enhancing their communication skills, as well as empowering their leadership. To enrich the personal journey and professional development of Toastmasters, 11 paths with 300 unique competencies were designed to develop real-world, transferable skills in many different areas through Pathways—communication, leadership, management, strategic planning, service to others, public speaking and more. The new Toastmasters' Educational program helps UTM Toastmasters Club members to explore and self develop their full potential. Throughout the wonderful term, our club has witnessed inspiring story and wonderful achievement by our member inside and outside the club. Hence, UTM Toastmasters Club can be described as the hatching a place before the members design even more amazing chapter of their life. We have wonderful advisor, Immediate Past President and dedicated club officers that planned and executed wonderful programme to groom our members, as well as to provide platform for engagement.

Congratulations to Wen Ching, who embark the journey on Famelab, Dr. Zainab Jagun with INTENPRO, Dr Zaleha and Dr Julie Thuy Van Nguyen graduated as Doctorate, Ibrahim Dr. Diyana, Dr Nabilah, Tom and Inda receive a bundle of joy with the birth of their baby



Sincerely yours,
Nina

Nadwa awarded with Sakura Science Plan, Farah as the editor for Inside UTM, Jacob become the awesome contest chair for so many competitions, Dr. Ibrahim Gambo doing his post doctorate and so many beautiful news beyond UTM Toastmasters Club club achievements. The members are now spreading wings venturing into other field that challenges the skills they had developed in UTM Toastmasters Club. I wish my Toastmasters members all the best in pursuing their dreams. Check out the valuable moments we have in Toastmasters deliver to you in this newsletter. May it brings joy to you and inspire you all.

BUILDING IMPACTFUL NETWORKING

BY MAIZATUL NADWA CHE AZIZ

Toastmasters can be a great platform to network on, it is still only a by-product. Toastmasters was formed with the vision of helping people improve their communication skills, enhance leadership skills, to take their fear of the stage head-on and most importantly, provide a safe place to fail.

In addition to that, networking will help members develop and improve their skill set, stay on top of the latest trends in industry, keep a pulse on the job market, meet prospective mentors, partners, and clients, and gain access to the necessary resources that will foster career development.

Since meetings are weekly or bi-weekly, members get a chance to meet the same people on a regular basis, making it easier to form a bond as well as be exposed to new guests who keep coming to explore what a toastmasters meeting is like.

Moreover, most Toastmasters clubs have a very welcoming culture. Members will be asked to introduce themselves and get everyone involved in club activities. So networking automatically becomes much easier since the environment is conducive to people interacting and helping each other.



Featuring Madam VPE, Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, IPI as invited Test Speaker during Humorous Speech & Evaluation Contests in CIMA Toastmasters Club.



TM Khu Wai Hoong and Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, IPI enhance their networking by volunteering as role players during Humorous Speech & Evaluation Contests in Scared Heart Toastmasters Club.



UTM Toastmasters extraordinaire rock the stage by contributing as role players and took up the challenge by contesting in Area G3, Humorous Speech & Evaluation Contests.



Clubbing help you in expanding your network instead of just sticking to the few people you are already close to. Madam VPE Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, IP1 and VPM, Farah Hidayah Jamaludin, DL2 go beyond the club, attended chapter meeting in JB City Toastmasters Club.

Unity in diversity boosts morale of people at workplace, organization, and community. Club Officers of UTM Toastmasters Club successfully conducted joint meeting with West Coast Toastmasters Club in Singapore.



Networking in Toastmasters helps in enhancing relationships, teamwork among people thus improve performance, quality of work, productivity and lifestyle. Club Officers of UTM Toastmasters Club have attended Humorous Speech & Evaluation Contests of NTU Alumni Toastmasters Club in Slim Barracks Rise, Singapore.

To build effective networking and to seek for opportunity to interact with new people, TM Khu Wai Hoong and Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, IP1 represent the club by visiting Flex PTP Toastmasters Club during its regular meeting.



ENHANCING SKILLS THROUGH CLUB CONTESTS

BY NURHIDAYAH ZAID

In every term, UTM Toastmasters Clubs will conduct four different contests, which are the International Speech Contest, Evaluation Contest, Humorous Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest. Although these elements such as prepared speeches, table topics and speech evaluations are done in almost every chapter meeting, but I believe the feeling are way different when it is done in a club contest.

In club contests, I believe all contestants are extra prepared compared to presentation in normal chapter meeting. This is because, in club contest, you know that you will be competing with other amazing speakers and will try your best to write an amazing speech and practice hard so that you may become the best among the best speakers. What's more important is, the first place winner of the club contests will stand a chance to represent UTM Toastmasters Club to compete in area level! And when it comes to the area level, it will become more competitive as the competition gets fiercer in order to compete in higher levels, which are the district, national and then international level! Hence, by participating in club contest, ones will surely push themselves in order to have a better communication skill.



Besides participating as a contestant, many club members anticipate the club contests in order to enhance their leadership skills too. This is because the role players in a club contests have different task compared to the role players in chapter meetings. In club contests, I can say that the procedures are stricter in order to ensure the smoothness of the process. Therefore, by taking up roles in club contests, members will be able to challenge themselves in working on new tasks and at the same time sharpen their leadership skills.

In this term, UTM Toastmasters Club had organized Humorous Speech & Evaluation Contests on 19 September 2019. Meanwhile, International Speech & Table Topics Contests was held virtually through Zoom Application on 23 April 2020. Both contests went very smoothly, thanks to the awesome role players, contestants and all club members who made it happened. The winners of each contest are listed below. Congratulations to all!

Humorous Speech Contest:

1st place: Zainab Toyin Jagun

2nd place: Yap Zhen Shyong

3rd place: Liew Wen Ching

Evaluation Contest:

1st place: Dr. Nor Ain Husein

2nd place: Dr. Nina Diana Nawi

3rd place: Farah Hidayah Jamaludin

International Speech Contest:

1st place: Inda Abdulmumini

2nd place: Dr. Nina Diana Nawi

3rd place: Dr. Julie Nguyen

Table Topics Contest:

1st place: Dr. Nina Diana Nawi

2nd place: Ibrahim Magira Tom

3rd place: Nor Hidayah Radzaz



UTM TOASTMASTERS CLUB BOWLING TOURNAMENT 2020

BY FARAH HIDAYAH JAMALUDIN

On 4th January 2020, UTM Toastmasters Club organized a bowling tournament for all members as an effort to cultivate sport, teamwork, and bonding among our members. The event was led by our one and only Sergeant-at-arms, TM Tom, assisted by TM Athirah, and myself, TM Farah. On the sunny Saturday afternoon, we made our way to Universal Best Bowling Centre, Mydin Mutiara Rini, and got ourselves prepared for the battle. We were randomly divided into 3 teams according to the bowling alley.

I believe every participant has really enjoyed the game. Zainab's and Dr. Ibrahim's happy dances are the solid evidences. To say that we had a blast would be an understatement especially for the first-timers who have never stepped their foot into a bowling center, myself included. Fortunately, the more experienced members like Prof. Niza, Tom, Shyong, and Dr. Ibrahim patiently, diligently, and lovingly guided the first-timers with useful tips from selecting the suitable ball to the amount of force needed when swinging the ball. They have truly made our first bowling experience a memorable one.



Congratulations to the Bowling King, Tom and the Bowling Queen, Prof Niza!

Some of our skillful and of course lucky members managed to score some strikes. The champion, first runner-up, and second runner-up awards were won by Group 2, Group 3, and Group 1 respectively. For the top scorer award, Prof. Niza was awarded as the Bowling Queen while Tom was awarded as the Bowling King. We are thankful to Athirah and Dina who had diligently prepared the yummy hampers and adorable trophies for this event. All in all, this bowling tournament has indeed bonded us to another level of togetherness, teamwork, and friendship.

EVALUATION WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

BY YAP ZHEN SHYONG

"You don't know what you don't know." – Socrates. You won't know about the things you have yet to discover.

Before I join Toastmasters Club, I never know what an effective speech evaluation is. For me, speech evaluation is just simple feedback or comment on its good or bad. However, after I attended the "Hands-on speech evaluation workshop" – by Mr Mohd Awee Sidek and Mr Tan Eng Suan, I notice that an effective evaluation could be very impactful to a speaker, which could help to boost speaker's confidence and provide him with a tangible direction for improvement.

To give an effective evaluation, we learned how to listen more attentively, refine our critical thinking abilities and give feedback constructively in the workshop.

Besides that, the speakers highlighted that when we are constructing our feedback speech, must deliver in a motivating, encouraging way, and this is important, especially when we are evaluating a new speaker.

To practice our evaluation towards more effective, an evaluation competition held at the end of the workshop, and fortunately, I won the 3rd place. It is my first evaluation in a toastmasters club. And I wish I could be better for my next evaluation.

I believe all the participants were benefited from this hands-on workshop. With constructive criticism and encouraging delivery skill, we are not only an effective evaluator in toastmasters' meeting, but we are also growing towards a better communicator or leader in our daily life.



My very first time giving a speech evaluation after joining UTM Toastmasters Club



Group photo with the speakers and participants of the workshop

LEARN FROM THE BEST TO BE THE BEST

BY NUR IDAYU ALIMON

March, 12 - UTM Toastmasters club had successfully organized a Speech Crafting Workshop as the guidance for all members for the upcoming International Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest. The workshop was conducted by DTM Yasotha Arumugam.

I have joined UTM Toastmasters Club for almost 3 years and this was the first time I participated and gained so much knowledge and input on both contests including the marks division, the criteria, and the type of speeches that we can deliver as a contestant. There are four types of speech that we can deliver, which are the informational speech, the persuasive speech, the humorous speech and the inspirational speech.

Some tips on how to give an impactful speech are also shared by the speaker. It started with having an impactful speech title such as woman empowerment, powerfully petite, beyond your limit, revenge of the fallen, cool, calm and collecting, against all odds, learn, unlearn, relearn, test of life, and hey be positive! The title should be less than five words. Next, do not start the speech with "I'm here to say about" and do not give our purpose of giving speech.

The most powerful speeches are the personal stories and experiences. Other than the content, the way of delivering the speech is also important. For example our vocal variety, stage presence and appearance also play a crucial role in delivering a good speech.

In addition, during the workshop, all participants were given a group task where we were divided into a few groups which were guided by a facilitator. On the hands-on task, each of us need to share an inspiring story and complete the introduction of the speech. The speaker also suggested some suitable and interesting speech titles for each of us.

I believe all participants have benefited from this hands-on workshop and the tips are very useful for all the contestants to deliver more impactful and inspiring speech in the International Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest.

"Success doesn't just find you. You have to go out and get it." -Lydia Sweatt. In order to be a good speaker, we need to know the tips and apply them into our speeches.



The speaker, Yasotha Arumugam DTM, had successfully delivered a very impactful session on speech crafting



Group task where the participants discussed on constructing a good speech title and introduction



Prof. Dr. Nor Haniza Sarmin

with her six years experience as a UTM Toastmasters Club member, our beloved club advisor, Prof Dr Nor Haniza Sarmin is ever ready to share her knowledge and impacts she obtained throughout this wonderful journey.

Q: How did you find out about UTM Toastmasters Club (UTM TMC) and what made you want to join as a member?

A: Six years ago, in 2014, when I was an administrator in the School of Graduate Studies (SPS), I received an email sent to all UTM staff from the UTM TMC's President at that time. On my very first time joining UTM TMC as a guest, the meeting venue was at Faculty of Science. Since I didn't know what toastmasters is, I went there by myself out of curiosity. After that meeting, I decided to join the club as a member. I made the decision as I am sure that I can gain knowledge and benefits from the club.

Q: Why do you encourage your students to join UTM TMC as a member?

A: I believe it's the same for everyone, including staffs and students, that one of the weaknesses of our staffs and students would be public speaking, mostly because they are not confident. Personally, I hate to speak in public. During school, I was an introvert. Since the time that I went to further my studies in US, I changed. This is because for Americans, they just speak everything even in class. I remembered in my very first class, I sat very quietly in front and not speaking. All my other classmates were very active, they were asking lots of questions, like you can see our international students in UTM. Then, during my second year, I sat way in the back of the class.

I still remembered the subject was Introduction to Higher Mathematics. In every class, I would ask questions. Because when you sit at the back, you can see everyone and no one would turn back just to see who is speaking. That was my first time speaking courageously in public.

Then, throughout all the years teaching in UTM, I can see our students don't want to speak in public. So I believe that toastmasters club can be a platform to make them feel braver to speak. Being an admin, a lecturer, you get used to speak in public. I want this to be experienced by all my students. I ask them, but I did not force them. I know that this will be beneficial for them, I would like them to join if they are free and don't have any financial problem. I really encourage them and highly recommended them to join UTM Toastmasters club.



Rocking the "Back to School" themed chapter meeting by wearing school uniform

Exclusive Interview

Q: Do you see any improvement in them after joining? If yes, what is the major improvements?

A: Yes, definitely. Most of my students have co-supervisors, and we have Whatsapp group with the co-supervisors to keep updated. We always share updates on how the students are doing, and even the co-supervisors agreed that the students are improving a lot, not just in research but also in communications. I can say 100% that they have improved. Even me, before I join, if you give me something to comment, I will only see the bad things first. Right now, I will always try to find the good thing first. Even if you interview my students, they can see my improvement in commenting their works. So this is one of the things that I can really see in myself, not only in my students.

Q: Besides their improvements in communications skill such as public speaking, are they improving in other aspects after joining toastmasters?

A: As you know, toastmasters club is not only about public speaking, but also about leadership. Managing people is one of the hardest things to do. So, in a way, I can see that my students can manage people. When you contact with others: how do you send even simple messages? How do you ask people to come and join the meeting? How do you persuade people? How do you manage all the stress to become a good leader? These are all skills that you can get from toastmasters. So I can see in my students that they are definitely learning so much from it.



Wearing Saree for Deepavali themed meeting



With my mentor, Dr Abdullah, wearing the colours of Jalur Gemilang for 'Love My Malaysia' themed meeting



Meeting theme "mismatched"

Exclusive Interview

Q: In your opinion, how can Toastmasters club helps students in order to prepare for the future such as viva presentation or even work life?

A: Toastmasters club has been helping the students. Being a member and a lecturer, in every speech I delivered, I will surely inject things that not only students, but also the staffs can learn. Toastmasters club is not only focusing on public speaking, but the context of speech delivered by all members is very useful. So that is where the members are helping the other members, by injecting useful messages in their speech. During these so many years, I can see that our club has improved in the sense that the members are more prepared. Previously, we had presenters who are not prepared at all. We have to at least prepare. Not only just to get the points so you can just read during the presentation, but you do it because you want to do it. This is very crucial so that you don't get very nervous and so on.

So, to answer your question, the club has been helping the students into having a better preparation to apply the content more, which will definitely help them in the future. A lot of my students did not realize that until they started their working life. Most of them, when I asked again if they have benefited, they said no wonder I asked them to stay active not only as a toastmaster, but also in other activities while on campus because they will surely need those skills in their work life.



Successfully finished one of my projects and achieved Advanced Communicator Bronze in an online meeting

Q: What made you decide to stay in UTM Toastmasters Club all these years, despite being busy as an admin and a lecturer?

A: My personal principle of life is once you commit in something, you really have to stay committed. What you believe would be beneficial, then you need to stay and you need passion to do it. I could not say that I never thought of leaving because I am busy and so on. But I think, staying is also a good decision. It is hard even for me to force myself in order to finish my manual. I would try to squeeze my time, putting everything aside to focus on completing my projects. Sometimes it stressed me out, but I try to take it easy and try to focus so it helps me to be passionate on what I'm doing.

In other way, I believe that my decision on staying can also make a good example to others. Seeing that I can still actively join as a member and serve to the club despite my busy schedule will probably inspire others a little bit. I think some of my students also feel that obligation. Sometimes you inspire people not by saying, but by doing.

LEARNING JOURNEY OF A BEGINNER

BY LIEW WEN CHING

Sharing is caring. Sharing my knowledge or ideas is my way of concerning and contributing to the world. I always have faith that we might be able to inspire or give positive impacts to others through our words. However, to make our words or sharing useful and meaningful, we must train ourselves to become an effective speaker. This motivates me to be here today in UTM Toastmasters Club. Within 6 months of joining, I attended a lot of public speaking practices and trainings.

To further enhance my skills and get out of my comfort zone, I took the golden opportunity to participate in FameLab Competition. Different from Toastmasters Club Chapter Meeting, FameLab is a 3-minute Science related speech competition that makes science relevant to the society. Along the journey, I was glad to receive precious guidance from experts including our UTM Toastmasters Club member, Dr Nor Ain Hussein; my supervisors, Prof Ida Idayu and Dr Zulkifli; experts from UTM School of Graduate Studies and British Council Malaysia. I also grabbed the chance to practice in UTM Toastmasters Club Chapter Meeting as my project. Eventually, the public speaking skills that I learned from Toastmasters Club and the scientific knowledge gained along postgraduate study made my first FameLab presentation a success.



My first experience at FameLab competition



Group photo with other participants and judge

Although I did not win any prize in the competition, I earned more than the award. The sharing by other researchers not only had broadened my view, but also reminded me to look things differently from other perspectives. Their dedication to make Science fun and interesting from public speaking have inspired me as well. I am very grateful to meet those amazing people and participate in the trainings provided by UTM Toastmasters Club, UTM School of Graduate Studies and British Council Malaysia. Thank you all! FameLab, I would come back again for more fabulous trainings and experiences.

MY EXPERIENCE IN PUBLIC SPEAKING

BY ZAINAB TOYIN JAGUN

I have always had a phobia for public speaking. It was still a problem for me to stand in front of a big audience and articulate myself efficiently, and this affected me greatly. After identifying this problem, I accepted that it had to be changed and adequately dealt with. As I searched for a solution to this problem, I had the opportunity of being introduced to UTM Toastmasters Club. My experience as a Toastmaster member was an interesting and eventful one. Knowing that I had a problem with public speaking, I joined this club to improve my skills, with the help of my mentor, Prof. Niza.

During my learning process, I started by following the steps and procedures from the manual that I was given, engaging in a step by step lesson. The first one was the icebreaking section, where a person introduces him/herself to the audience present. I was made to understand that during this, one should speak fluently and make sure to say something that the audience will never forget. Next, I was made to work on my vocal variety, i.e., the changing of my tone and how to do this accurately when presenting a specific subject to the audience. Also, I was coached on the importance of body movement during a speech, eye contact and capturing the audience's attention.

As I continued to learn and practice what I had learned in my Club environment, my

mentor advised me to practice them outside my comfort zone, in a completely different environment with a broader audience. This encouraged me to take up various roles that enhanced my experience.

One of these roles was having the opportunity to be a moderator for an International Women's Day program held in Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor campus. Also, I was invited for a UTM Interactive English Program (INTENPRO), where they have activities that allow you to interact with the audience through the use of the English language, for talent development. During one of these events, I gave a speech using PechaKucha format, a storytelling platform used by many around the world, used by individuals to share personal presentations at various venues, also by businesses to pass across information, and by schools as a tool to aid learning. The second was a Horror Stories event, where the theme was Horror Stories, and this allowed me to exhibit some of the skills I had acquired from the Toastmasters Club, communicating effectively and captivating the audience.

I am happy that I had such an opportunity in the Toastmasters Club, as this has greatly improved my public speaking skills. It has also helped me to achieve a vast amount of growth, both personally and professionally. I am grateful to my friends and colleagues for their contribution and support in this process, and aiding me to be a better public speaker.

Along with speakers and organizing committee of UTM INTENPRO Horror Stories event



ONLY YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT!

BY ATHIRAH ZULKARNAIN

Have you imagined yourself as a person that can easily talk or give speech in front of people? Not all have the courage and brave enough to be that person. Nowadays, it is a 'compulsory' soft skill that you must have. I, myself always have the dream to be this kind of person where I can give speech or talk confidently in front of people anytime and anywhere. But I know, dream must work together with action for you to achieve it.

"If you never try, you will never have the opportunity to improve"

Before I joined UTM Toastmasters club as a member, I was just a girl who is always shy and have no confidence to speak in front of people. Whenever I came to Toastmasters meetings as a guest, I always hope that nobody will ask me to talk, even to introduce myself. I always want to improve my speaking skill, but I don't know how to start. But when I have the opportunity to join as a member in 2018, I just grabbed it. I know this is the platform that I needed.

Being a Toastmaster helped me a lot in enhancing my soft skill. Toastmasters teaches me on how to be a good and confident speaker and on how to construct a good speech. How? By doing your projects, you will learn something throughout the journey. Toastmasters club also provides a great opportunity in leadership. In every chapter meeting, we have a chance to try different role. From this role playing activity, we will learn about responsibility and team work to make sure the meeting will run smoothly. Whenever I have the opportunity to try different role in chapter meetings, I will just do it even I have never tried it before. There is always a first time in everything, right?

Bad or good doesn't matter because we will always have the chance to improve it. But if you never try, you will never have the opportunity to improve. Besides widening the networking between the members and guest, I also have the opportunity to join other Toastmasters club meetings around Johor Bahru and Singapore. This helps me to widen my network outside UTM and communicate with a lot of people from different backgrounds. The more you talk with people of different backgrounds, the more varieties of knowledge you will gain. Cool, right?

Along this journey, I have a very strong support system and I am not alone. I have a positive president, supportive advisor, hardworking excos, and amazing members in UTM Toastmasters Club with me. Each one of them plays important role for me to learn from. In Toastmasters, everyone will bring positive vibes to help members to be a better speaker day by day. I am glad and grateful that I have chosen this journey. I may not be the best among the best, but I always do my best. Thank you, UTM Toastmasters Club.



Smiling to the camera while giving a speech is not an opportunity that you always have. Catch the camera!

THE PERKS OF BEING A CLUB OFFICER

BY AQILAH FARHANA ABDUL RAHMAN

First of all, I'm feeling grateful for being one of the club officers and hold a position as a Secretary for this whole term. For reader's information, the seven nominated club officer positions are President, Vice President of Education, Vice President of Public Relations, Vice President of Membership, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms. As a club officer, we have to dedicate our valuable time and provide a tremendous service to Toastmasters. It is important that we understand the importance of our roles. Each officer has specific responsibilities to complete the club with the full support from members though there may overlap or require cooperation between the officers. As a team, we need to always have good strategies and planning to achieve our goals so that members are able to develop their oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth. We learn to develop our administrative and leadership skills in a positive and supportive environment.

In addition, to achieve a good network, club officers also get the opportunity to have good collaborations and teamwork with other toastmasters clubs for a better improvement in every aspect for our clubs. Besides, we learn on how to utilize the club's procedure, to accept and delegate responsibility, and to exercise the fundamentals of planning and leadership. In overall, being and serving as a club officer is a great responsibility and an exciting opportunity which is filled with chances in improving the skills as a leader. I would like to share the quote from Dr Ralph C. Smedley, the founder of Toastmasters International, "Whatever your grade or position, if you know how and when to speak, and when to remain silent, your chances of real success are proportionately increased".



Club Officers Installation on 11 July 2019



Attending club officers training together



Having our regular club officers meeting

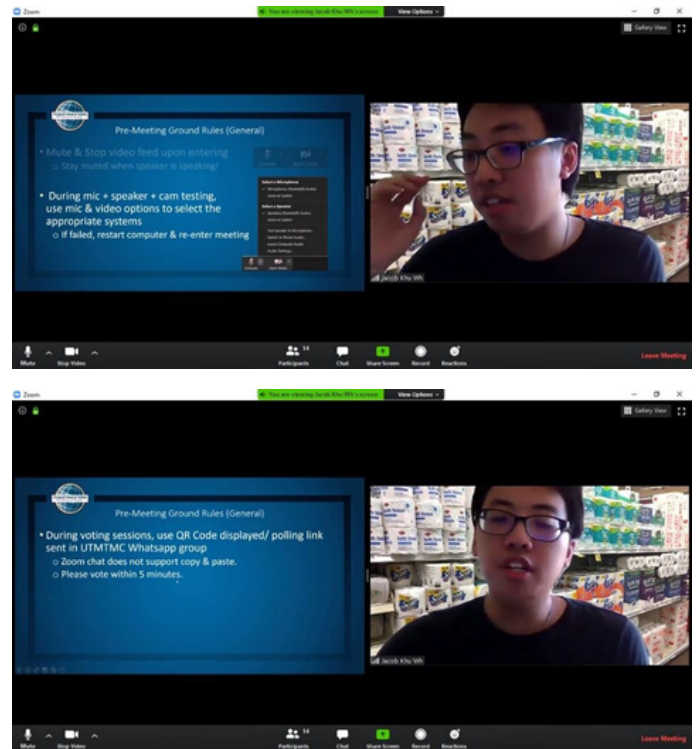
A NEW TOASTMASTERS CHAPTER - TOWARDS A VIRTUAL PRESENCE

BY KHU WAI HOONG

Little did we know, the world was launched into a bizarre predicament as we head into the early quarters of 2020. COVID-19, a dangerous coronavirus disease which first gained a foothold in Wuhan China, has ravaged across the globe and was declared a global pandemic which resulted in the disruption of everyone's daily lives. As lockdown cordon sanitaire efforts and social distancing measures were implemented in March to keep the disease at bay, people were forced to embrace a brand new, digitally-oriented norm and this means that we, as Toastmasters, were adapting to the transition towards virtual-based activities as well.

At the time of writing, I have been in charge for hosting all the club's online chapter meetings as well as the 2019/2020 International Speech and Table Topics online contest (club level). These were unprecedented times as the club members and I fumbled through the uncharted waters of hosting and attending Zoom-based meetings, but fortunately we took a few tries to get it right. Our main hurdle to the virtual transition is none other than the bane of all web-based activities – bandwidth issues. As our nation was relatively underdeveloped in terms of wireless telecommunication, several club members were constantly plagued by disconnection problems and frustrating bouts of lagging due to limited bandwidths and congested online traffic. An audience-wide muting strategy was thus imposed to mitigate the issue. Some other hindrances while hosting an online meeting or a contest include the initially-perceived complexity of Zoom meeting controls as well as the non-intuitive nature of carrying out roles in front of a screen (e.g. ballot counters in a contest have to go through the hassle of registering the judges' contacts and alerting them to send in

their digitally-filled ballots through messaging apps while in a physical contest, the judges simply hand their ballots to the counters). Eventually though, with some degrees of success, we have adjusted to the virtual transition and I personally, as the appointed Zoom Master for the club, would not have traded anything for this valuable knowledge.



As the zoom master - explaining the meeting flow to all attendees is essential at the beginning of each online chapter meeting

Still, nothing beats the joy of having a physical meeting with face-to-face interactions and a lively atmosphere right before our eyes. But, as the world needs to change in order for it to heal, we need to play a part in fighting this pandemic by being socially responsible and staying physically apart from each other until this disaster subsides. It's always nice to be together without technology getting in our way, but for now, going digital is the next right thing to do.

MOMENT OF CHOICE

BY INDA ABDULMUMINI

Dear respected and valued readers, this article was developed from winning speeches presented during UTM Toastmasters meeting. The topic won the best speech at international speech contest UTM TMC and Third place at District 102 Division G level. And I was encouraged to publish the content for larger benefit. I challenge myself to pen down some ideas from the speech since writing differ with speaking, I hope my valued reader would gain from the ideas and content of the speech. This article is about the 21st century skills that are needed by every individual to survive in this era. For ease of comprehension, I structure the article into two main points, which are caring as human nature and 6Cs of 21st century survival.

Caring is human nature. This is a singular act of showing kindness and concern for others. I therefore care to share to you because you are valuable. What am about to share has been identified by many researchers as life jacket for surviving the oceanic challenges of 21st century. Dear reader, imagine being drown in an ocean without a survival kit, this is scary right? What if you have something to hold on that would enable you swim out of the ocean, you will have security, the same way getting awareness of the skills needed in this era of multi-dimensional challenges. In short, you can't separate man or human from caring. Man has been in need of care right from the day he was born, up to the day he dies. Human without caring, results to depression and even death.

THE 6Cs

Critical thinking, Creativity, Communication and Collaboration are the 21st century skills that are so essential for surviving the big data era. For more than a decade the National Education Association identified those last four Cs. The additional two Cs, which are **Choice and Caring** were introduced by Joe Ruhl. He is a biology teacher who started a survey on these skills with his ninth- grade biology class students. He shared his 37 years of teaching experience and found choice and caring as additional very important skills in teaching and learning. The following are the glimpse and highlights of what they mean using a framework the author coined as free style SIP framework. SIP is an acronym denoting Story, Idea and Point.

Each of the skills (except caring which has been explained) would be highlighted using this framework.

1. Critical Thinking and Creativity

Critical thinking and creativity clique and link with each other where you need to think critically and creatively to come out with something brilliant. The story starts with a teacher in a classroom. The teacher asked his students, "Who can name one person that is an inventor, what he discovered and invented?" Some of the students mentioned about Thomas Edison. As an inventor, he discovered light and invented bulb. Another student mentioned another scientist who is an inventor and also what he has invented. And the teacher asked third student, "Who is your inventor?" He said "My father. He discovered my mother and they invented me." So, the point of this story is that you need to have the sense of creativity and critical thinking before you be able to discover something and later creating or inventing or find an answer where all escape from your memory as in the case of the third student.

2. Communication

Communication is another survival kit that we need to survive this era. There was a clip that went viral it was about a Prime Minister of a country (name withheld) on his visit to the White House to meet ex President Obama That Prime Minister took time learning the protocol to communicate with the president of USA. Practically, Obama will come out and the Prime Minister is expected to say "How are you?" And Obama will respond "I am fine. And you?" Then the Prime Minister is expected to say "Me too." Though It took the Prime Minister much time practicing this part. On that day of meeting Obama, the Prime Minister forgot to say "How are you?". Instead, he said "Who are you?" Obama replied "I am Michelle's husband. And you?" Then he said, "Me too." The idea is that a whole country may be embarrassed if their representative couldn't effectively communicate. poor communication can create havoc and crisis. In today's world, we need communicators. Not mere communicators but those who has the skill for effective communication.

3. Collaboration

When it comes to collaboration, this is an area when we explain the importance of collaboration, and how through collaborations and unity, people can get stronger. A man that was about to die, called on his own children and gave each a stick to break. Each of them easily broke their sticks that were giving to them separately. Then the man asked the children to gather the sticks and try to break it. They gathered the sticks and pass to each other to try and break it, but they couldn't. In collaboration, you gain more. And people with collaborated efforts can never be broken as they will be stronger. The idea is, through collaboration, you learn more, you see more, you understand more, and you perform more. In this world, we need to collaborate, for example if one has an idea and he shares with one or two others they will end up having two three or more ideas. When "I" is replaced with "we" even 'illness' become 'wellness'.

4. Choice

Regarding the issue of choice, it is often said your choices can either make or break you. This is the area that the author desires to emphasize particularly on the challenging time of pre and post COVID-19 life. The story is about a young lady who complained to her mother of her life challenges, the mother directed her to kitchen where she taught her unforgettable lessons. The mother placed three separate cooking pots on a gas cooker with multiple cooking points. The first pot she put in pure water and carrot, second one egg and the third one Coffee bean. After 20 minutes she called her daughter to observed what happened to the boiled carrot, egg and the coffee bean. The daughter observed keenly and allowed the mother to explain beyond her (daughter's) ordinary observation. The mother then drew her (daughter's) attention on the changes occurred. Then, she explained that, the carrot was strong before boiling but it was soft after. For the egg, it has liquid inside but the liquid hardened after boiling. And lastly, the coffee bean was strong before boiling and after the boiling it remains strong but it influences the boiling water by changing the colour of the water. The idea of this story is that some people are like carrot. Before get into trouble, for example COVID-19, before the pandemic, they look strong. But after they become weak, hence such people cannot change themselves neither would they change the problem. Some people are like the egg. They are soft hearted before crisis or difficulty, but after crisis their heart become hardened. And the last one, some people are like coffee bean, they are strong before and after.

They are the People that bring change, people that inspire, people that motivate and people that change the conditions of other people they are those people that face challenges upfront and influence the society for the better. It is said changing face (frowning) at the moment of difficulty changes nothing but facing changes in life can change every thing.

Dear readers, isn't it interesting to have a single club that will help you harness those skills in a very professional and internationally recognised manner that you become a world class communicator and leader? Join Toastmasters today and grow at your pace. Even your best can be improved. This is the moment of Choice that will keep you relevant and impactful to the society at large. For instance in learning public speaking via a strategic and methodical way as packaged by Toastmasters International you can communicate with confidence, in an atmosphere full of collaboration and it can improve your care for others, creativity and most importantly critical thinking skills. With those skills you fully have the full skills for surviving the 21st century challenges be a communicator and leader by Choice not by chance, the moment of Choice is now not later. As for members of Toastmasters (Seniors and the upcoming, Mentors and Mentees) keep the ember of effective communication and leadership glowing by focusing on the core values of Toastmasters: Integrity, Respect, Service and Excellence, no better time that humanity need your selfless services than now, give leadership at the time it matters most by Choosing to live for others to smile. Thank you and congratulations for accepting to be a leader and Communicator. Hope you find this piece useful.

I appreciate the following without their encouragement this piece wouldn't have been a reality:

PM Dr Ahmad Johari bn Sihes (My supervisor), Dr. Abdullah Mohd Nawi (My Mentor), Dr. Nina Diana Nawi CC, CL (Club President), Prof. Dr. Nor Haniza Sarmin ACB, CL (Club Advisor), Dr. Farhana Diana Deris CC, CL (IPP), Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz CC, CL, (VPE), Nurhidayah Zaid (VPPR), Nur Athirah Farhana, All other Club officers of UTM TMC, Area and Division G levels. Thank you all!

Yours in success, Inda Abdulmumini EC4 UTM TMC
PhD Student School of Education, Department of Educational Foundations,
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities,
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

COVID-19 IN THE EYES OF A UTM RESEARCHER & UTM TOASTMASTERS CLUB'S MEMBER

BY DR JULIE NGUYEN

As the COVID-19 pandemic rapidly sweeps across the world, it has impacted the human life more than anyone could ever imagine. To date, the Coronavirus has caused the death of thousands of people, and millions are infected. Hospitals are facing overwhelming numbers of patients, universities and schools are closing, social events were forced to stop. The global economic plunges due to the worldwide lockdown or movement restriction orders enforced by the government. Workers who are travelling through country borders are no longer able to do so, hence they lose their source of income. The human society seemly start to have a considerable degree of fears, nevertheless with the available online platform- this gives hope and relief for people to start connecting. Online platforms have been actively used for businesses, meetings, conferences and also for people to meet up in a safer way in accordance to the social distancing policy.

COVID-19 did not limit human potential, instead it allows people to explore more areas to be innovative. UTM Toastmasters Club has given me the opportunities to unleash my potential as a contestant in an online Toastmasters International Speech and Table Topics Contest. As an avid education researcher, I take the opportunity to share my view on how Universiti Teknologi Malaysia is handling and managing COVID-19 crisis based on the reports in social media. I believe, it is my responsibility as a researcher to motivate the audience in remindset and have effective self-plans to contribute for the safety of the community.

In the first day of Movement Control Order (MCO) established in Malaysia (17 March 2020), UTM's social media provided informative panels to guild staff and students how to be safe in COVID-19 pandemic; UTM clinic staff in group photos with the message of ready to care of UTM staff and students as reassuring to everyone. A charity program of 30 days free foods for students in hostels in lockdown time opened; self-video maker competition organized for the youth expressing their positive

routine activities for mental health care in boring time with isolated by social distance. Several online workshops were run to assist students and lecturers as well as to equip with inputs and skills for an effective online teaching and learning. All faculties come up with new products based on research to contribute for community's benefits. Engineering researchers quickly produced the auto serving food robots that can be used in hospitals. UTM hands sanitize products also exported at this time.

I believe most of UTM Toastmasters Club members have a strong background as an academican, since we have academic staff, postdoctoral and postgraduates. Hence, during this dire situation of MCO, I strongly encourage our member- or shall I call UTM researchers to start writing papers to contribute. Perhaps the writing efforts will contribute and enrich the database materials. As for myself, I am interested in many topics related to my field of "Education in higher education", Such as Risk management in higher education in Covid19 Crisis; Challenges and strategies of online teaching and learning in MCO; Mental health care for students in coronavirus pandemic's impacts; Strategies of online academic advising for student's development and success in Covid-19 Crisis.

Currently, there is a limited number of research documents related to COVID-19. This is highly due to the time taken to conduct study that requires validity and reliability. Although the research gap is clear, however, paper research findings need to be critical and informative based on data analysis. When a scientist has produced of vaccine to prevent the corona virus pandemic for the normal life recover, we need to learn how to be safe and have valuable life in a real context. UTM Toastmasters member may not be a frontliner, but as UTM Researchers, we can contribute to the fields such as in writing research papers and publication. This is not only enriched database materials for multi-purposes but also support for community overcome obstacles and sustainable development.

Chapter Meetings at a Glance

1st Chapter Meeting

"Fly High"

11 July 2019

WoD: Circumspect

TMD: Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, CC, CL

Best Speaker: Nur Idayu Alimon, IP1

Best Evaluator: Ooi Aun Chye, ACG, ALB



2nd Chapter Meeting

"Broaden the Horizon"

18 July 2019

WoD: Endearment

TMD: Nur Idayu Alimon, IP1

Best Speaker: Dr Abdullah Mohd Nawawi, ACB

Best Evaluator: Yasotha Arumugam, DTM

Best Table Topics: Woulfe John Patrick, ACG, ALB

3rd Chapter Meeting

"Durian: The Conqueror"

1 August 2019

WoD: Undergird

TMD: TM Siti Zaleha Daud

Best Speaker: Amira Fadina Ahmad Fadzil, CL

Best Evaluator: TM Farah Hidayah Jamaludin

Best Table Topics: Hishan S Sanil



4th Chapter Meeting

"Iceberg Illusion"

15 August 2019

WoD: Agog

TMD: TM Yap Zhen Shyong

Best Speaker: TM Khu Wai Hoong

Best Evaluator: Kassim Siedik, PI3

Best Table Topics: Joni Tan

Best Role Player: TM Liew Wen Ching (SAA)

Chapter Meetings at a Glance



5th Chapter Meeting "Love My Malaysia"

5 September 2019

WoD: Magnanimity

TMD: TM Liew Wen Ching

Best Speaker: Prof Dr Nor Haniza Sarmin, CC, CL

Best Evaluator: Dr Abdullah Mohd Nawi, ACS

Best Table Topics: TM Nizar Haider

Best Role Player: TM Khu Wai Hoong (Ah Counter)

6th Chapter Meeting "Save Our Earth"

3 October 2019

WoD: Cherish

TMD: Ibrahim Magira Tom, IP1

Best Speaker: TM Yap Zhen Shyong

Best Evaluator: Chong Mon Peng, IP2

Best Table Topics: TM Yap Sook Mee

Best Role Player: TM Khu Wai Hoong (Timer)



7th Chapter Meeting "Pyjama Party"

17 October 2019

WoD: Exhilarated

TMD: : Farah Hidayah Jamaludin, DL1

Best Speaker: Prof Dr Nor Haniza Sarmin, CC, CL

Best Evaluator: Dr Nina Diana Nawi, CC, CL

Best Table Topics: Omid Tajik

Best Role Player: Farah Hidayah Jamaludin, DL1 (TMD)



8th Chapter Meeting "Project Potpurri"

7 November 2019

WoD: Paragon

TMD: : TM Khu Wai Hoong

Best Speaker: TM Liew Wen Ching

Best Evaluator: Sakeshraj Narajah, SR3

Best Role Player: Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, CC, CL
(Grammarians)



Chapter Meetings at a Glance

9th Chapter Meeting "Hats-Off"

21 November 2019
WoD: Monumental
TMD: Dr Siti Zaleha Daud, IP1

Best Speaker: TM Dr Julie Nguyen
Best Evaluator: Dr Abdullah Mohd Naw, ACS
Best Table Topics: Nizar Haidar Hassan, IP1
Best Role Player: Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, IP1
(General Evaluator)



10th Chapter Meeting "Music & Life"

5 December 2019
WoD: Harmony
TMD: Aqilahfarhana Abdul Rahman, LD2

Best Speaker: TM Khu Wai Hoong
Best Evaluator: Sakeshraj Narajah, SR4
Best Table Topics: Fatana Lameh
Best Role Player: TM Anas Saleh Ahmed Ghamam
(General Evaluator)

11th Chapter Meeting "Bloom!"

19 December 2019
WoD: Ameliorate
TMD: : Nurhidayah Zaid, VC2

Best Speaker: TM Omid Tajik
Best Evaluator: Nizar Haider, IP1
Best Table Topics: Nizar Haider, IP1
Best Role Player: TM Khu Wai Hoong (Grammarians)



12th Chapter Meeting "2020"

2 January 2020
WoD: Commemorate
TMD: : Rubina Akhtar, IP1

Best Speaker 1: Farah Hidayah Jamaludin, DL1
Best Speaker 2: Nur Idayu Alimon, IP2
Best Evaluator: Yasotha Arumugam, DTM
Best Table Topics: TM Abdul Qawi Noori
Best Role Player: TM Khu Wai Hoong (Ah Counter)

Chapter Meetings at a Glance



13th Chapter Meeting "Orange"

16 January 2020

WoD: Catalyst

TMD: Athirah Zulkarnain, DL3

Best Speaker: TM Liew Wen Ching

Best Evaluator: Prof Dr Nor Haniza Sarmin, CC, CL

Best Table Topics: Umar Faruq Muhammad

Best Role Player: Athirah Zulkarnain, DL3 (TMD)

14th Chapter Meeting "Power of Love"

6 February 2020

WoD: Literally

TMD: Zainab Toyin Jagun, CC

Best Speaker: Prof. Dr. Nor Haniza Sarmin, CC, CL

Best Evaluator: Yasotha Arumugam, DTM

Best Role Player: Dr Abdullah Mohd Naw, ACS
(Language Evaluator)



15th Chapter Meeting "Not All Wounds Are Visible"

20 February 2020

WoD: Ardour

TMD: TM Khu Wai Hoong

Best Speaker: TM Athirah Farhana Omar Zai

Best Evaluator: Sakeshraj Narajah, SR3

Best Table Topics: Sakeshraj Narajah, SR3

Best Role Player: TM Khu Wai Hoong (TMD)



16th Chapter Meeting "Blissful"

5 March 2020

WoD: Beatific

TMD: Siti Zaleha Daud, IP2

Best Speaker: TM Ar Noraslinda Abdul Rahman

Best Evaluator: Nizar Haidar Hassan, IP2

Best Table Topics: Athirah Zulkarnain, DL3

Best Role Player: Sakeshraj Narajah, SR4
(Language Evaluator)



Chapter Meetings at a Glance



17th Chapter Meeting

"Stay at Home"

2 April 2020

WoD: Pandemic

TMD: Maizatul Nadwa Che Aziz, IP1

18th Chapter Meeting

"Stay Healthy, Stay Happy"

16 April 2020

WoD: Adapt

TMD: Yap Zhen Shyong, EC1

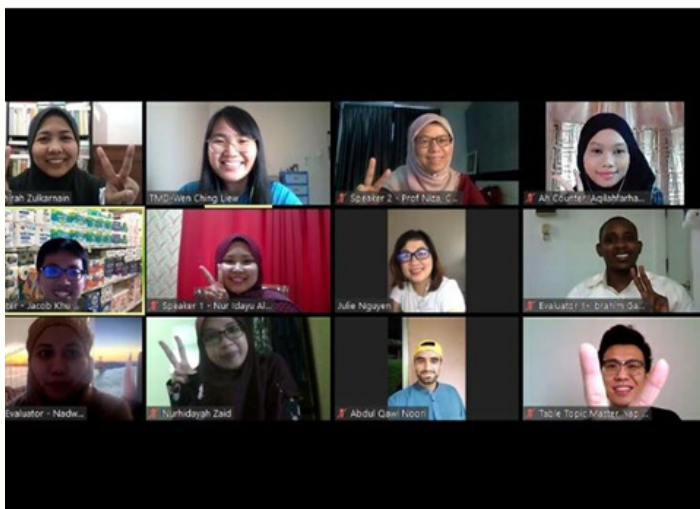
Best Speaker: Dr Nina Diana Nawi, CC, CL

Best Evaluator: TM Abdul Qawi Noori

Best Table Topics: Abdulmumini Inda, EC3

Best Role Player: Liew Wen Ching, IP1

(Table Topics Master)



20th Chapter Meeting

"Revive"

7 May 2020

WoD: Revitalize

TMD: Liew Wen Ching, IP1

Best Speaker: Prof Dr Nor Haniza Sarmin, ACB, CL

Best Evaluator: Dr Ibrahim Gambo, CC, CL

Best Table Topics: Dr Ibrahim Gambo, CC, CL

Best Role Player: Liew Wen Ching, IP1 (TMD)

21st Chapter Meeting

"A Blessing in Disguise"

21 May 2020

WoD: Solace

TMD: Nur Idayu Alimon, IP3

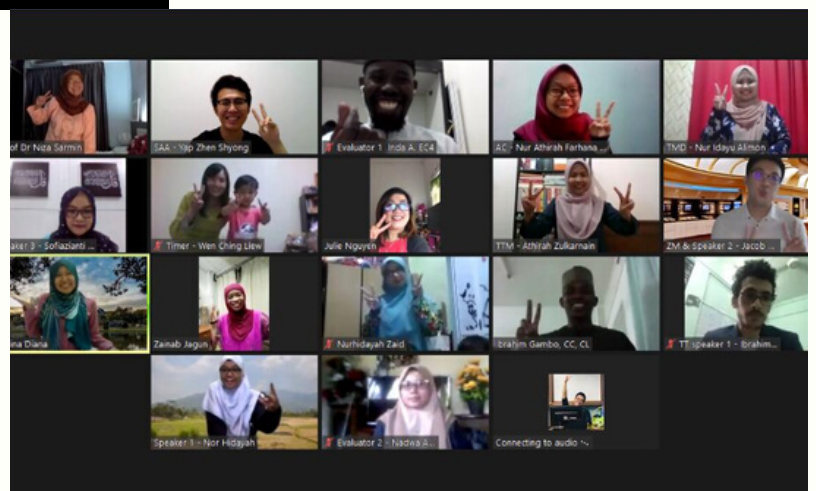
Best Speaker: TM Khu Wai Hoong

Best Evaluator: Dr Julie Nguyen, CC

Best Table Topics: Nurhidayah Zaid, VC2

Best Role Player: Athirah Zulkarnain, DL3

(Table Topics Master)



WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT US

"Toastmasters gave me the opportunity to nurture my self confidence"

I was one of the first few international members to join UTM Toastmasters. I joined toastmasters immediately once I joined UTM Skudai campus. Throughout my PhD journey toastmasters has helped me improve my communication and presentation skills. Toastmasters taught me how to cultivate courage by gaining confidence with my strengths and working on my weaknesses. I was lucky to be part of the UTM toastmaster members who were very supportive and helped me improve my skills. The speech evaluations gave some constructive feedback without breaking my confidence. Toastmasters gave me the opportunity to nurture my self confidence and leadership skills. For me toastmasters is all about instilling positivity in yourself and other members. It is a privilege to be part of others improvement and toastmasters gives that platform for all the members. My journey with UTM toastmasters has been memorable and I am sure it will be for many of the members who are part of toastmasters.

Thanks and all the best to UTM toastmasters team.



Dr. Hishan Shanker Sanil
Researcher
Azman Hashim International
Business School, UTM

"I am now able to speak confidently in front of other people..."

I'm Julie from Vietnam. Unfortunately, I didn't have the privilege to study English in my school due to Vietnamese war. I have always dreamt to speak English, especially in front of people. As I pursued my doctorate in Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), I was blessed to be in the community that help me to enrich my educational philosophy in teaching and learning. UTM provides me a platform to realize my dream. Now, my dream come true- I am now able to speak confidently in front of the people. My Journey in UTM Toastmasters Club had given me platform to speak in front of the crowd with confident and smile, along with tips for me to improve myself. Now Julie can speak english, despite never have the opportunity in Vietnam. Thank you UTM, UTM Toastmasters Club, and Toastmasters International, I am now awarded with Competent Communicator.



Dr. Julie Nguyen
Postdoctoral Fellow (Teaching
& Learning),
Faculty of Social Sciences and
Humanities, UTM

"The supportive group environment allowed me to practice my skills efficiently"

So far, I have worked for several years with the UTM International office interfacing daily with students from diverse backgrounds and different countries. Communicating as clear as possible is the surest way to engage with students efficiently. As a non-native speaker of English, joining the UTM Toastmasters club which offers proven communication and leadership education program becomes inevitable.

The supportive group environment of persons from different backgrounds and possessing varying skills has allowed me to practice my skills efficiently and have received valuable feedback. The feedback has sharpened my leadership skills, made me become a better speaker, listener and improved my interpersonal skills.

Ayu Azrin Abdul Aziz
Executive Officer
UTM International



"I love the socializing aspect of UTM Toastmasters Club"

I always make time to attend UTM Toastmasters Club (UTM TMC) chapter meeting regularly primarily because of 2 reasons:

1) Challenges-

I love challenging myself... UTM TMC provides me with the opportunity to speak in front of a challenging audience, one that I'm not used to speaking in front of. By attending, I'm able to get better after every try.

2) Food -

It was a hard decision to put this in second place but yes. I just love the socializing aspect of UTM TMC where we network while munching on delicious food 🍴.

As a member of another club, UTM TMC never made me feel left out so I'll make sure to keep coming.



Nizar Haider
UTM Aces Toastmasters
Club Member

"I have learned a lot of new lessons that changed my way of life"

Toastmaster is a network that we can find competent, communicative and supportive people particularly, UTM Toastmaster is one of the best clubs on the ground. As a member of UTM Toastmaster club, I have learned a lot of new lessons that changed my way of life. Previously, I was weak in communication and making relations with people, this club provoked me to be friendlier and be connected with a network of honorable and supportive people. Hopefully, I used the opportunity to join other clubs as a guest and learn more during the pandemic Crisis of Corona Virus. As a result, UTM Toastmaster's club paved the way to me to improve my leadership and communication skills and be a good communicator.



Abdul Qawi Noori
Master of Educational
Management & Administration,
Faculty of Social Sciences and
Humanities, UTM

"Toastmaster promotes healthy environment for us non-native English speakers to improve our English language skills"

I was first introduced to toastmaster by my PhD supervisor Prof Dr Nor Haniza. I was like, 'Is this a club where we toast a bread and having a cup of tea during the tea break?'. It was totally different when I join their meeting. Eventually, it is a club where we talk in English, deliver speech in English, other than that, there is also an impromptu slot again we talk anything related to the given topics in English.

To further improve our English, my supervisor has sponsored all her students to join the club. I love the program made by toastmaster to elevate the speaker's confident to have good command in English. Before I leave the club after I have completed my PhD studies, I manage to collect Competent Communicator award where I have completed 10 prepared speeches successfully. Beside that, the club also assigned one of the club members to become our mentor. The mentor will monitor their mentee's progress from time to time.

All I can say, the toastmaster promotes healthy environment for us non-native English speakers to improve our English language skills. They are very supportive and made us comfortable to talk in English. They always support each other. I hope to be able to join one of the Toastmasters clubs in my current working area.



Dr. Muhammad Azrin Ahmad
Senior Lecturer
Centre for Mathematical Sciences
Universiti Malaysia Pahang

Distinguished Club Program Goals 2019/2020

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

Club Status
2019-2020

Month of May
As of 05/10/2020

01329493 UTM Toastmasters Club

| Club Alignment | Membership | | Goals |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Region 13 | Base 22 | To Date 22 | Goals Met 10 |
| District 102 | Required 20 | | Distinguished 5 |
| Division G | 20 members or a net growth of 5 new members | | Select Distinguished 7 |
| Area 03 | Chartered 05/07/2009 | | President's Distinguished 9 |

| Goals to Achieve | | Goal | To Date | Status |
|--|--|------|---------|------------------|
| Education (A maximum of 6 will count toward DCP credit.) | | | | |
| 1 | Competent Communicator (CC) awards | 2 | 2 | ✓ |
| 2 | More Competent Communicator (CC) awards | 2 | 3 | ✓ |
| 3 | Advanced Communicator (ACB, ACS, ACG) awards | 1 | 1 | ✓ |
| 4 | More Advanced Communicator (ACB, ACS, ACG) awards | 1 | 1 | ✓ |
| 5 | Leadership Awards (CL, ALB, ALS) or Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) awards | 1 | 1 | ✓ |
| 6 | More CL, ALB, ALS, or DTM awards | 1 | 0 | 1 CL needed |
| P1 | Level 1 awards | 4 | 8 | ✓ |
| P2 | Level 2 awards | 2 | 2 | ✓ |
| P3 | More Level 2 awards | 2 | 2 | ✓ |
| P4 | Level 3 awards | 2 | 2 | ✓ |
| P5 | Level 4 awards | 1 | 1 | ✓ |
| P6 | Level 5 awards | 1 | 0 | 1 Level 5 needed |
| Membership | | | | |
| 7 | New members | 4 | 4 | ✓ |
| 8 | More new members | 4 | 8 | ✓ |
| Training | | | | |
| 9 | Club officers trained June-August | 4 | 6 | ✓ |
| | Club officers trained November-February | 4 | 5 | |
| Administration | | | | |
| 10 | Membership-renewal dues on time | Y | 2 | ✓ |
| | Club officer list on time | Y | 1 | |

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