

# INTERNATIONAL OFFICER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name: **Richard I. Furbush**

Candidate's Office: **International Director** Region Number: **Region VIII**

Toastmasters member since: **2006**

Education:  
**Harvard Graduate School of Design- 1971-1972, Cornell University BS Engineering 1967-1971**

Employer and/or position: **Retired**

Served as district governor of district number **47** Term of service: **2010-2011**

In term as district governor, district achieved:  Distinguished  Select Distinguished  President's Distinguished

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service (international and regional level):

**Region VIII Advisor 2012-2013  
District 47 Governor 2010-2011  
District 47 LGET 2009-2010  
District 47 LGM 2008-2009  
Division G Governor 2007-2008**

Toastmasters honors and recognition (international level):

**President's Distinguished District Governor 2010-2011 (Three Years in a row President's Distinguished District)  
LGET Excellence in Educ. & Training (President's Distinguished District 2009-2010)  
LGM Excellence in Marketing (President's Distinguished District 2008-2009)**

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a Board member:

**As a Professional Speaker, Corporate Trainer and consultant, my experience working with Colours International to expand their franchise network and design their corporate training will be valuable. My extensive volunteer work with Cornell and Harvard Universities, and as President and Board Member of many alumni organizations gives me a unique perspective on the future of Toastmasters, and as a Strategic Planner.**

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

**I worked with Colours International on their Strategic Plan for their expansion to 165 franchises as well as their training program.  
As a volunteer with Cornell University, I worked on the Alumni Board's strategic plan to create and implement their change of policy on Alumni Magazine distribution.**

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

**Working with Colours International on developing their franchise financial structure.  
Worked with Cornell University Alumni Board restructuring the financial structure of their alumni dues giving and alumni magazine.**

What experience do you have in developing policies?

With Colours International, I worked on the development of their franchise policies.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I have had the unique opportunity to be a leader in some capacity most of my life. As MVP Quarterback at Cornell University, Track Captain, President, and Board Member of 7 different Alumni groups I have learned a few lessons. Leadership is all about how effective you can be leading and inspiring your group or team, with a big enough goal to make a difference in their lives, and then helping them achieve those goals. Also, to win, you can't take it too seriously.

What experience and key strengths would you bring to the Board of Directors?

My Leadership, Strategic Planning and Inspirational Skills. I have the unique perspective of the University environment where the future of Toastmasters lies. Having started over 100 clubs and a half dozen university clubs, I have a valuable perspective. Also, I can have valuable input with the university perspective of leadership training, accredited courses and professional leadership courses.

Why do you want to serve as an international officer/director?

I feel that service to others is the most valuable thing anyone can do. I know I can make a difference in Toastmasters and I want to give back to the wonderful organization that has given so much to me.

What volunteer experience do you have outside of Toastmasters?

Over 25 years with Cornell University as President or Board Member of 7 different Alumni Organizations. President of the Ivy League Club of Tampa where I received the Harvard Floridian Alumni of the Year Award for that contribution.

Have you worked with other Boards of Directors outside of Toastmasters? If so, describe your experience.

Cornell Assoc. of Class Officers (CACO) Board member: We created the Alumni Training for 1,000 Alumni each year at our Cornell Alumni Annual Convention. Cornell Alumni Federation: We worked on expanding the Alumni participation and fund raising. Also restructured the distribution and financial structure of the Alumni Magazine. Cornell Delta Upsilon Fraternity Board Member: Reorganizing and building up Alumni participation and fraternity house renovations.

In your opinion, what are Toastmasters International's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

First, to bring Toastmasters Leadership Training to a new level and credibility in the professional setting. I have a unique perspective as a Leadership Trainer with my University experience. Second, Expansion of Toastmasters Clubs. I have started over 100 clubs and trained District Trios to do the same. Third, raising the member retention level. I have a great track record of high member retention in the 3 years as a District Trio member of a 3x President's Distinguished District.

Additional information about candidate:

Although I have been a leader on many teams and organizations, I pride myself on being a team player. I know that an International Director is first and foremost a team member and one needs to work as such.