

ADVANCED COMMUNICATORS MEETING

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Advanced Communicators Meeting (“ACM”) is a monthly Toastmasters meeting started and jointly organized by D’Utama Toastmasters Club (“D’Utama”), DU Advanced Toastmasters Club (“DU Advanced”) and Klang Bilingual Toastmasters Club (“KBTC”). The first ACM was held in July 2006.
- 1.2 All Toastmasters in good standing, who have achieved the titles of at least Competent Toastmaster (“CTM”) or Competent Communicator (“CC”), are invited to participate in the ACM. Participations are confirmed on a first-come-first-accepted basis due to the limited places available (not more than fifteen) for each meeting.
- 1.3 With effect from May 2008 (ACM#23), ACM has been officially adopted by Metropolitan Bilingual Toastmasters Club (“MBTC”) (1183411-51) as its Advanced Meeting. D’Utama, DU Advanced, KBTC and TTDI Toastmasters Club (“TTDI”) have been the main participating clubs.
- 1.4 MBTC is the organising club for ACM#23 to ACM#32 (February 2009), with the exception of ACM#31 (January 2009) which was jointly organised by TTDI and WIM Toastmasters Club as a show case event for Division W.
- 1.5 With effect from March 2009 (ACM#33), a new structure has been adopted for the organization of future ACM. ACM participants will take turn to volunteer as the organizing chairman (“OC”) for a half-year term. The OC’s home club will be the organising club.

2.0 Objectives of ACM

- 2.1 To provide an alternative platform for Toastmasters who are attempting the Advanced Communication Manuals (“AC Manuals”) to present their projects to, and to receive effective and constructive feedbacks from, fellow Toastmasters who are also attempting the AC Manuals.
- 2.2 To provide a platform for Toastmasters who are attempting the AC Manuals to enhance their evaluation skills by having both panel evaluation and open evaluation for every project; and by having participants’ feedback for evaluators as well.
- 2.3 To enable members to improve their skills in leadership by playing the roles as facilitator and coordinator.
- 2.4 To provide a positive learning environment for Toastmasters who are attempting the AC Manuals to meet regularly, in small grouping, to enhance their presentation, evaluation and leadership skills.

3.0 Benefits of ACM

- 3.1 Certain AC Manuals' projects, such as "Facilitating Discussion (The Discussion Leader)" and "The Professional Speaker" require a longer presentation than the normal "five to seven minutes" speeches. It will be impractical to use regular meetings' speaking slots for such speeches. ACM provides speaking slots for such long speeches and frees up the speaking slots of regular meetings.
- 3.2 ACM allows more time for evaluation session and thereby enables the concurrent uses of "panel evaluation" and "open evaluation" (which regular meetings cannot afford to have due to time constraint.) Therefore, ACM provides assurance to the speakers of receiving the highest quality of feedback with constructive and candid evaluations given by the main evaluators, the panel evaluators and the other participants.
- 3.3 By having a "question and answer" sessions between evaluators and the other participants, ACM also provides a feedback mechanism to evaluators, thereby enables members to enhance their evaluation skills.
- 3.4 ACM facilitates the in-depth discussion on each of the AC Manuals' projects that are delivered by the speakers. This would enhance members' understanding of the projects and thereby enables them to be able to use such projects in practice.
- 3.5 By limiting each meeting to a small group of participants (not more than fifteen at each meeting), ACM ensures every participant has a role to play and everyone participates in the meeting.
- 3.6 ACM promotes inter-club interactions and cross fertilization of ideas as Toastmasters from different clubs will meet regularly, sharing ideas and exchanging views as well as learn and grow together

4.0 ACM Set Up

- 4.1 ACM is organised by the home club of the OC. The participating clubs at each ACM are the home clubs of the ACM participants.
- 4.2 The Chief Coordinator for ACM is Soh Fong Wai, DTM. The OC will be the Assistant Coordinator for the duration of the meetings in which he/she is the OC.
- 4.3 Either the Chief Coordinator (DTM Soh) or the Assistant Coordinator (ie OC) will appoint an experienced Toastmaster to be the Facilitator for each ACM. The Facilitator's role is to preside over the meeting; to facilitate and to moderate the proceedings.
- 4.4 The role of the OC is to invite participants (i.e. the speakers; the chief evaluators; and the panel evaluators) and to liaise with all parties (Chief Coordinator; Facilitator; and

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all other participants) to ensure all logistic arrangements (such as meeting programme, speakers' project confirmation and project guides, etc) are in order.

4.5 ACM is held once a month. The current regular meeting venue is at Bangsar Optometry, 8-0-13, Ground Floor, Menara Mutiara Bangsar, Jalan Liku, Off Jalan Bngsar, 59100 Kuala Lumpur, courtesy of Lee Wei Seong, ACG, CL.

4.6 At each ACM, maximum of sixteen participants shall be permitted ie: the Facilitator; maximum of three* speakers; maximum of three main (chief) evaluators (ie the official evaluators for the three speakers); and maximum of nine panel evaluators (three for each panel.) Every member who present at an ACM must be a participant including the Chief Coordinator and OC (who must also register themselves as participants to participate) - There shall be no observers*.

(*Maximum number of speeches per meeting is three. However, if there are long assignments, the number of speakers will be reduced to two only. In the event there are only two speakers, observers are allowed provided the maximum number of participants does not exceed sixteen.)

4.7 ACM will be held in the last week or second last week of the month. The meeting day will be subjected to the Facilitator's availability and will be confirmed by the Chief Coordinator (or the OC) with the Facilitator.

5.0 House Rules and the Do's and Don'ts

5.1 Facilitators for ACM are by invitation of the Chief Coordinator. The ACM meeting day will be subjected to the Facilitator's availability and will be confirmed by the Chief Coordinator (or OC) with the Facilitator.

5.2 Participants of each ACM (speakers, chief evaluators and panel evaluators) are by volunteering. Members who are interested to participate in an ACM must inform the Chief Coordinator or the OC of that ACM, of their interest to participate and also of the role in which they are volunteering. All the roles will be filled on a first-come-first-accepted basis. Every participant is a role player.

5.3 Members who are interested to be a speaker at a future ACM must inform the Chief Coordinator or the OC in advance. Member(s) who have made prior reservation for speaking slots at a particular month's ACM shall be given the first right of refusal to be a speaker. If he/she declined, the speaking slot shall be given to the next speaker in the queue. Any speaker who has given up the speaking slot must re-join the queue (if any) again.

5.4 Speakers who have confirmed in any ACM are expected to commit to their speaking slot. If a speaker is unable to attend the meeting and has to pull out as a speaker for any reason, he/she must inform the OC immediately so that the OC can source for replacement. In the event a speaker has to pull out within a week of the scheduled ACM date, he/she is expected to find a replacement to take over his speaking slot.

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5.5 Unless a speaker has personally requested for and personally arranged for his/her own preferred (chief) evaluator to attend the relevant ACM, the OC has the absolute discretion to assign the (chief) evaluator to him/her.

5.6 In the event a speaker has arranged his/her own evaluator, then the evaluator initially assigned will be re-assigned as a panel evaluator.

5.7 Responsibilities of the Facilitator:

- Prior to the meeting, do confirm the meeting day at least two weeks in advance (preferably three weeks or longer) with the Chief Coordinator and/or OC.
- During the meeting, presides over the meeting and ensure every role player is present – if not, to immediately arrange for substitutions from amongst the participants present.
- Before the meeting proper starts, to discuss with the panel evaluators (for each panel respectively) their respective area of emphasis* during the evaluation, so that the panel evaluators can focus on the respective areas assigned to them.

(Note 1: The Facilitator is also the Moderator during the panel evaluation; Q&A between participants and panel; and the open evaluation sessions.)

(Note 2: *Each member of the panel evaluators will be assigned an area of focus for him/her to evaluate specifically. The Facilitator (Moderator) shall decide on the basis of assignment, depending on which basis he/she considered to be most beneficial for the speaker. For example, the area of focus could be divided by the specific areas of a speech (eg: “content, delivery and message”; or “organization, vocal variety and body language”); by the various components of the objectives; or by the criteria set out in the “evaluation guide”.)

(Note 3: the chief evaluators will have to cover the overall evaluation, so they are not given specific areas to focus as opposed to the panel evaluators.)

- At the commencement of the meeting, to brief the participants of the format of the meeting, especially the different evaluation sessions (ie the panel evaluation; Q&A between participants and panel evaluators; the chief evaluator’s report; and the open evaluation), for the benefit of the new participants.

(Note: It is important to make it clear to the other participants that during their Q&A with the panel evaluators, they are supposed to provide feedback on the panel evaluators’ evaluations and not the speakers’ speech. The other participants only give their evaluation on the speech during the “open evaluation” session.)

- During the panel evaluation and open evaluation sessions, be neutral and only provides moderation, ie draw ideas from the evaluators and from the other participants, but refrain from giving own opinions. Make comments only during the summary session (see below.)

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- At the end of the meeting, give an overall feedback (ie a general evaluation.) Any opinion and/or additional comments on evaluations should be given during this summary session.

(Note: In essence, the Facilitator's role is that of a TME and GE combined in one.)

5.8 Responsibilities of the OC:

- Prior to the meeting, to confirm the date of the meeting, at least two week before meeting (preferably longer period), with the Chief Coordinator and/or the Facilitator.
- To send out invitation and notices of the ACM, by email, to all interested members (regular ACM participants and other eligible Toastmasters (ie CTM/CC and above) at least two week before meeting (preferably longer period.)
- To confirm with each volunteer his/her role in the meeting.
- To ensure that only a maximum of sixteen participants (see 4.6)

(Note: Any member who volunteers after the maximum registration will be put in the waiting list only.)

- To liaise and confirm with every speaker his/her project details; and to ensure that a copy of the project details (including Note to the Evaluator) is received from each speaker, at least one week before meeting.
- To send out, via email, to every participant: (a) the Meeting Programme; and (b) the projects' details of all the speeches, at least three days before meeting.
- Preferably, the OC shall also be a participant. However, in the event that he/she is unable to attend the meeting, to ensure that the Chief Coordinator (if he is a participant) or in his absence, another participant, is fully briefed to take over the coordination task during the meeting.

5.9 Responsibility of a Speaker:

- Prior to the meeting, to inform the OC, as well as his/her (speaker's) chief evaluator and panel evaluators, of his/her project details (ie which manual and which assignment) at least one week before meeting.
- To ensure that a copy of the project details (including Note to the Evaluator) is sent to the OC, as well as his/her chief evaluator and the panel evaluators, by email, at least one week before meeting.
- To prepare and to deliver a good speech with enthusiasm and commitment.

5.10 Responsibilities of All Participants:

- DO volunteer for a role and commit to it.

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- DO inform and encourage other eligible members (CTM/CC and above), especially those from your respective clubs, to become ACM participants.
- DO prepare in advance for the meeting (ie to read and understand all the project details of the assignments to be attempted by speakers for the meeting.)
- DO be punctual for meeting.
- DO respect the Chair (the Facilitator) during the meeting.
- DO participate actively during the meeting.
- DO give your frank opinion in your evaluation, but DO NOT criticise.
- DO evaluate the speeches (content and delivery) and not the speakers.
- DO evaluate on language and other aspects of the deliveries besides evaluating the objectives of the projects so long as you feel the comments are warranted for the speakers' improvement – since there are no grammarians and ah counters in ACM.

6.0 Maintenance of this “ACM Info & Guidelines”

6.1 This “ACM Info & Guidelines” shall be maintained and updated by the OC. At any one time, the latest version maintained by the OC shall be the official version and shall supersede any earlier versions.

6.2 At the end of his/her tenure as the OC, he/she shall pass the latest update of this “ACM Info & Guidelines” to the next OC.

Compiled by:
Gan Teong Hock, ACB, CL
“OC”, ACM#23-ACM#32
20th June 2009

Updated by
Johnson Yike, ACG ALB
“OC”, ACM#37 – ACM#43
5th August 2009

Appendix 1

Appreciation

(1) Chief Coordinator:

- Soh Fong Wai, DTM

(2) Facilitators:

- Sharon Ng, DTM (ACM#1, July 2006)
- LeAnn Tang, DTM (ACM#2, August 2006; and ACM#15, 12/9/2007)
- Dr Arul, DTM (ACM#3, September 2006)
- Ho Fong Ming, DTM (ACM#4, October 2006; and ACM#35, 20/5/2009)
- G Jayam, DTM (ACM#5, November 2006)
- Ramdas Nayar, DTM (ACM#6, December 2006; and ACM#19, 30/1/2008)
- Dominic Joseph, ATMG (ACM#7, 29/1/2007)
- Jon Tan, ATMG (ACM#8, 28/2/2007)
- Low Yat Seow, DTM (ACM#9, 26/3/2007)
- Dunstan Chan, DTM (ACM#10, 30/4/2007; and ACM #12, 8/6/2007)
- Stephen Fernando, ATMB (ACM#11, 25/5/2007)
- Geoff Andrew, DTM (ACM#13, 27/7/2007; ACM#23, 23/5/2008; and ACM#29, 21/11/2008)
- Sheila Wong, DTM (ACM#14, 27/8/2007)
- Fabian Fidelis, ATMS (ACM#16, 17/10/2007)
- G Sivalingam, DTM (ACM#17, 30/11/2007)
- Francis Ng, DTM (ACM#18, 28/12/2007; and ACM#28, 24/10/2008)
- G Subramaniam, DTM (ACM#20, 29/2/2008)
- Lum Woon Fong, DTM (ACM#21, 27/3/2008)
- Sue Ding, DTM (ACM#22, 29/4/2008)
- Patricia Tan, DTM (ACM#24, 30/6/2008)
- Lee Wei Seong, ACG, CL (ACM#25, 24/7/2008)
- Soh Fong Wai, DTM (ACM#26, 28/8/2008 (Joint Facilitator); and ACM#27, 23/9/2008)
- Sharmini Helen, DTM (ACM#26, 28/8/2008 (Joint Facilitator))
- S Ganesh, ACS, ALS (ACM#30, 23/12/2008)
- Loghandran, DTM (ACM#31, 21/1/2009)
- Simon Soh, ACG, CL (ACM#32, 27/2/2009)
- Bernard Louis, DTM (ACM#33, 25/3/2009)
- Dennis Wee, ACS, CL (ACM#34, 23/4/2009)
- NJ Singam, ACB, CL (ACM#36, 19/6/2009)
- Yau Chau Fong, ACB CL (ACM#37, 23/7/2009)
- Kay Wong, CTM (ACM#38, 21/8/2009)

(3) Organizing Clubs:

- D'Utama Toastmasters Club (Joint organising club for ACM#1 to ACM#22; joint organising club for ACM#33 to ACM#36; organising club for ACM#37 to ACM#48)
- DU Advanced Toastmasters Club (Joint organising clubs for ACM#1 to ACM#22; and joint organising club for ACM#33 to ACM#36)
- Klang Bilingual Toastmasters Club (Joint organising clubs for ACM#1 to ACM#22)
- Metropolitan Bilingual Toastmasters Club (Organising club for ACM#23 to ACM#30; and ACM#32)
- TTDI Toastmasters Club and WIM Toastmasters Club (Joint organising clubs for ACM#31)

(4) Organising Chairs:

(Note: From ACM#1 to ACM#32, there were no official OC; DTM Soh Fong Wai (ACM#1 to ACM#22) and ACB Gan Teong Hock (ACM#23 to ACM#32) were the de-facto OC. A coordinator was appointed for each of these ACM (#1 to #32). With effect from ACM#33, an official OC will be appointed for each ACM (and the role of Coordinator ceased with effect from ACM#33.)

- Soh Fong Wai, DTM (Promoter of ACM and Chief Coordinator; “OC” for ACM#1 to ACM#22)
- Gan Teong Hock, ACB, CL (“OC” for ACM#23 to ACM#32)
- Lee Wei Seong, ACG, CL (Co-promoter of ACM and OC for ACM#33 to ACM#36)
- Johnson Yike, ACG, ALB (OC for ACM#37 to ACM#42)
- Calvin Lim, ACS, CL (OC for ACM#43 to ACM#48)

(5) Coordinators:

(Note: Coordinator was appointed only for ACM#1 to ACM#32. With effect from ACM#33, no Coordinator will be appointed with the appointment of an OC.)

- Soh Fong Wai, DTM (Coordinator for ACM#1 to ACM#15 and ACM#31, 21/1/2009)
- Gan Teong Hock, ACB, CL (Coordinator for ACM#16, 17/10/2007; ACM#23, 23/5/2008; ACM#29, 21/11/2008; and ACM#32, 27/2/2009)
- Henry Fu, ACB, CL (ACM#17, 30/11/2007)
- Francis Ng, DTM (ACM#18, 28/12/2007)
- Johnson Yike, ACS, ALS (ACM#19, 30/1/2008; and ACM#24, 30/6/2008)
- Satchit, CC, CL (ACM#20, 29/2/2008)
- Simon Tan, ACB, CL (ACM#21, 27/3/2008)
- Dennis Wee, ACS, ALS (ACM#22, 29/4/2008)
- Koh Teck Lee, ATMB, CL (ACM#25, 24/7/2008)
- Cheong Kuok Sum, CC (ACM#26, 28/8/2008)
- Ivan Tan, ACB, CL (ACM#27, 23/9/2008)

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- Yau Chau Fong, ACB, CL (ACM#28, 24/10/2008)
- NJ Singam, ACB, CL (ACM#30, 23/12/2008)

(5) Others:

- Lee Wei Seong, ACG, CL (Co-promoter of ACM and also venue sponsor for all the ACMs except for ACM#10; ACM#12; and ACM#31)
 - Deloitte KassimChan Toastmasters Club (Venue sponsor for ACM #10)
 - Sunway Toastmasters Club (Venue sponsor for ACM #12)
 - TTDI Toastmasters Club and WIM Toastmasters Club (Joint venue sponsors for ACM#31)
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Appendix 2

Benefits of Group Evaluation (feedback by Dunstan Chan, DTM)

According to Past District 51 Governor, Distinguished Toastmaster Dunstan Chan, the AC Manuals challenge Toastmasters to elevate themselves to the “next level” of their communication abilities. Towards this aim, projects from the AC Manuals deserve more critical and candid evaluations. Members who attempt projects from the AC Manuals deserve more substantive feedbacks from their evaluators.

ACM addresses this issue by (i) having a small group of members all focus only on the three speeches; and (ii) having group evaluations (first by a panel and then by the floor.)

DTM Dunstan listed the following benefits of group evaluation:

(1) For members of the group:

Group evaluation sharpens our listening and analytical skill. This offers both quantitative change (ie more people giving feedback) and qualitative change (ie we can be more thorough in our evaluations - in a normal club meeting, sometimes the "thoroughness" of an accurate evaluation could scare the new members off, but in ACM there is no such constraint.)

Group evaluation also offers a change of approach when reviewing a presentation by the participants of ACM. When we use the term "Group Evaluation" we don't mean that it is the "Group" versus the "Speaker". We mean we learn as a group from the experience offered by the speaker and the discussion that followed. The speaker is very much part of the "Group". The evaluation needs not be focus only on the speaker (though this is our primary duty) but also on the validity of the evaluation given by each member, ie. the comment of each member of the evaluation group is subject to evaluation by the others as well. Take for example, if A said that the speaker lacked vocal variety, but B who thought otherwise could very well say, "I don't quite agree, I thought the speaker was able to modulate his voice well, like when he said ..." In this way A, the evaluator, could then re-examine his position and asked himself why did B disagree with him. In this way, A will also learn something about listening skill.

(2) For the Facilitator cum Moderator:

Group evaluation enables the Facilitator (Moderator) to practise facilitation skill, guiding the group, making sure that everyone has a chance to give input. Facilitating skill is very important but we seldom have the opportunity to practise it, and as the Facilitator, one will be given that opportunity.

(3) For the Speakers:

Group evaluation improves EQ, among other things. In ACM, the speaker, as a member of the discussion group, will also be given opportunity to have his/her say. He/she should be careful not to slip into a "defensive" mode, trying to argue his/her way out of the evaluation. Very often, whenever a speaker is being asked to comment on the points raised by the evaluators, he/she literally becomes very defensive, thus shutting out the valuable feedback. So if we as speakers were able to bit out tongues and open our ears and hearts we would improve our EQ in the process.

Appendix 3

Feedback and Comments by ACM Facilitators & Participants

(Note: Please accept my apologies for the intentional omission of Toastmasters titles in this Section, as it presents a great difficulty to update your titles from time to time.)

(1) Soh Fong Wai (D'Utama, Klang Bilingual & Metropolitan Bilingual):

“ ... All the feedbacks were valuable... a 20-minute feedback session definitely covers more... I believe all of us get to know the assignment objectives better after the session...it help to enhance our evaluation on advanced speeches ...” (ACM#1, July 2006)

“ ... I learned a lot in this 2 hours session. I have a clearer picture on how to do my assignments...” (ACM#3, September 2006)

(2) Eugene Ng (D'Utama):

"... If you think Toastmasters was helpful, wait till you go for the ACM. In normal Toastmasters meetings, you only get 1 evaluator and only 1 point of view. In the ACM, you get 4 to 5, sometimes more! The learning experience is thus multiplied... But frankly, this is not for everyone. If you're faint at heart, and can't handle constructive criticism, my advice is stay away, because you WILL get roasted for sure. Otherwise, I challenge you to raise your speaking skills to another level and join the ACM every chance you get...My only regret is not joining sooner..." (ACM#4, October 2006):

(3) Tan Kian Yoong (Deloitte KassimChan):

“...It is an enriching session at the AC meeting. I was spellbound, as after more than 6 evaluators given their shots (I meant recommendations.....), there are still more “out-of-the-box” feedbacks. If the usual toastmaster meeting is the road to success, the ACM will be the FLIGHT to success. My favorite is of course, the feedbacks session that is open to the audience, the feedbacks we get from AC meeting are many-many times more than the usual meeting...Thank you, thank you and thank you to everyone, especially to Fong Wai and Wei Seong, who spend their time organizing this!!! I could both see and feel the sincerity and passion throughout the session. It is absolutely astounding!!!” (ACM#6, December 2006)

(4) Meyyapa (Deloitte KassimChan):

"... I'm really fascinated with the meeting because it gives the speaker extra gear to go extra mile. With the "E-Power", (Evaluations), (it) ensure that the speaker can stand still and move forward without turning back...Looking forward to future meetings..." (ACM#7, 29 January 2007)

(5) Karen Yen (Help Institute and DU Advanced):

“...I truly enjoyed myself at the ACM 8 held on last Wednesday. This meeting provides a whole new experience for me as I find evaluations are genuinely for improvement purposes. This is “D PLACE” for speakers who want to receive direct constructive recommendations ...” (ACM#8, 28 February 2007)

(6) Joyce Hue (Help Institute):

“... I was told earlier to practice hard for this meeting and I'm glad I did. Not only was my immediate evaluator of good quality, all the other participants and audiences were equally generous with their evaluations. They were really critical and analytical. The pointers I got to bring home were really helpful. Having gone to the meeting really opened my eyes. It helped me improve myself and made me realize how many talented and helpful toastmasters are out there...” (ACM#8, 28 February 2007)

(7) Lim Bing Yee (D'Utama):

“...It took me a very long time, much to the chagrin of Fong Wai, before I attended one of the ACM Meetings and what I experienced was worth every cent of my time...Congratulations to the brave speakers who were sliced and diced by, if they were lucky, ten incisive evaluators! ...Well done for providing the vehicle of creativity for ACM projects to be presented in a cozy ambience Fong Wai and Wei Seong...I do encourage anyone to go and experience this exciting meeting for themselves and grow with Toastmasters friends...” (ACM#9, 26 March 2007)

(8) Murphy Lum (Sunway):

“...First and foremost, I wish to acknowledge the great effort put in by Soh Fong Wai. He's definitely taken the extra mile to set the stage for further learning and improvements from which we all can benefit from!! ...He cared enough to ask for feedback in ACM 9 and I trust that he has done the same for all the previously held ACMs!! Needless to say, he will continue doing so for future ACMs because I know he wants ACM and us to succeed!!! ... As for the ACM meeting, it was generally well structured and what I liked most was the intention of everyone present to want to help each other do better. And due to the spot on focus of the meeting, the speakers could benefit more from everyone's sharing...” (ACM#9, 26 March 2007)

(9) Sheila Wong (DU Advanced):

“...Thank you for giving me the opportunity to explore my facilitation skills...This meeting definitely helps speaker and evaluator to explore every aspect of their communication development – tools to help toastmasters who are earnest and very serious about their own progress...Fong Wai – thanks for coordinating this event. Your commitment help to inspire the rest of us to be more committed...My appreciation to all the speakers and evaluators as your contribution has certainly enriched my experience...” (Facilitator, ACM#14, 27 August, 2007)

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(10) Gan Teong Hock (D'Utama and Metropolitan Bilingual):

“...As in all the ACMs that I have attended, this ACM has helped me broadened my perspectives, not only on the three projects attempted by the three speakers, but also on the three genre of speeches overall, i.e. storytelling, speech by management and humorous speeches...” (Coordinator, ACM#16, 17 October 2007)

(11) Stewart Lee (Sunway):

“...Definitely a great added feature and structure for enhancing advance communication skills...” (ACM#16, 17 October 2007)

(12) Deborah Hoe (DU Advanced):

“...It is definitely not for the faint-hearted. I especially like the honest, no-holds-barred evaluations...” (ACM#16, 17 October 2007)

(13) Eu Choi San (MIM KL):

“...What I like is the constructive feedbacks and evaluations from the panel evaluators and I have gained many new experiences from this meeting. The take home value is high and it's really a fruitful session for me...” (ACM#16, 17 October 2007)

(14) Koh Teck Lee (Speakers' Dream):

“...for certain Advance Manuals not all club members is experience enough to evaluate and ACM come in handy by pooling the resources of many clubs' members...” (ACM#16, 17 October 2007)

“... to see so many first-timers, twelve all in... All of them were fantastic, sincere in sharing their ideas, full attention given... a wonderful and fulfilling meeting. Overall I enjoyed organizing this challenging meeting...” (Coordinator, ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

(15) Johnson Yike (D'Utama):

“...Whilst we have come to ACM to learn and improve ourselves, let us not forget to go back to our own club and pass on the knowledge to our club members.” (ACM#16, 17 October 2007)

(16) Fong Kok Loon (Money & You):

“... I have learned so much in evaluation through the ACM. Moreover, I had the chance to view and find out that the advanced manuals are very interesting. I had a wonderful time...” (ACM#24, 30 June, 2008)

“...As a speaker, it pushes me to another level. I will recommend to other friends to attend future ACM.” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

(17) Leong Kok Wah (MII):

“... It was an eye opener for me...” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

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(18) Leong Oi Wah (Ernst & Young and MAICSA):

“...I found the speakers really met the District theme of courage to conquer. I found the part on telling how they planned the speech very interesting as it prepares the evaluators. It may be good that sample be given to the new speakers so that they are aware of what they are to speak on. It should be treated as a mini speech...” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

(19) Arvind Sriram (KL Advanced):

“... First but not the last time for me to attend the ACM...” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

(20) Tan Kay Yong (UEM):

“As a speaker, I feel very nervous and do not know how deep the cliff is...” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

(21) Marian Lee (TTDI):

“...It is very challenging and interesting as a speaker...” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

(22) NJ Singam (WIM):

“...A very good experience... Keep up this tempo” (ACM#25, 24 July 2008)

Note to other ACM participants:

You are welcome to add your comments here – please identify yourselves (ie your name and club affiliation, and the ACM that you have attended) when you post your comment, and return a copy of your amended file for control purposes. Thank you for your cooperation.