Toastmasters International Names New Executive Director

PRNewswire RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, Calif.

Toastmasters International, the world's largest educational organization devoted to teaching public speaking skills, has named Donna H. Groh as its new Executive Director.

Groh, of Corona Del Mar, California, will lead TI's World Headquarters operations, which includes a 58-member staff and a \$7.5 million operating budget. An experienced public speaker with 25 years of leadership experience in the healthcare industry, Groh comes to Toastmasters from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, for which she was Director of Operations and Business Development. Previous to that position, Groh served as Vice President/Chief Operating Officer of the Irvine Medical Center -- a 176-bed start-up hospital in her former home community. There, she was responsible for total operations and new-program development, a \$145 million budget and the management of 700 employees. During Groh's successful tenure, the hospital received the Sterling Award, a regional award for quality and productivity based on Malcolm Baldrige criteria.

With her administrative experience and her education in nursing (Bachelor's and Master's from University of Pennsylvania), Groh has been recognized as an expert on topics related to bioethical decision-making and pediatric care. She has lectured extensively on these topics, as well as written a book and many textbook chapters.

Groh says she was attracted to Toastmasters International because of its "phenomenal reputation. I find it intriguing to work for an organization that routinely changes people's lives."

Groh has been married for 27 years to Martin Groh, an attorney, and they have two children.

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