

Meenakshi Mehta, ACB, ALB, of Rolla, MO is a Graduate Research Student in the Chemistry Department of Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, MO. Her research is based on the development and the applications of novel metal catalysts in the various fields of chemical transformations.

Prior to joining her PhD research program, she had been working as a Research Scientist at Jubilant Generics Ltd. in India. She also developed and optimized a new synthetic methodology for the manufacturing of an anti-migraine drug Naratriptan while working with Ind-Swift Laboratories Ltd. which is also one of the known pharmaceutical companies in India.

Her Toastmasters' journey began in January 2015 with the Missouri S&T club located at the Missouri University of Science and Technology. While there, she completed her CC, CL and ACB awards. She says, "I've improved my presentation skills a lot through Toastmasters and gained a great level of confidence in everyday speaking as well. The impromptu speaking does not scare me anymore."

She is currently an active member of Ozark Orators Toastmasters Club #1056, located in Rolla, MO. As the member of the District Executive Committee of Toastmasters International, Meenakshi is the Area Director for Area 7 of Division E which comes under District 8. She works with all the club officers to fulfill the mission of Toastmasters, allowing more and more people to be effective public speakers and enthusiastic leaders.