Techmasters Platforms 2015

Hey everyone!

Here are the platforms we received for this years board election. Enjoy the following beautifully-typeset LaTeX document.

What's that? You say it isn't beautiful? I mean come on, check out this integral

$$\int e^{xy}$$

Now tell me that isn't sexy

$$\int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int \int$$

MOVING ON

1 Co-Presidents

1.1 Cam and Karen

Our goals for the coming spring and next year are to make the Mechtasters organization far more approachable and fun as a club, especially for those people who show up at the beginning of the year thinking "wow, this club is so cool!" and then realize that all of our meetings consist of four people sitting around watching Jake program for an hour (love you <3). We'd like to bring this club down to a level where everyone can come join in and learn something about computers, whether it be how to make a teapot interesting, or how to fix a printer, or how to code a video game in LISP.

   - Cam and Karen

2 Assistant to the President

2.1 Eric Lee

I've said in my speech already that I am a visionary. I see TechMasters heading in a direction of awesomeness and prosperity. With my already-existent friendship with both Cameron and Karen (assuming they're going to get Co-Presidents), I am able to work closely with them at any given time. The position of Assistant to the Co-Presidents is a great suit for me because:

1. I'm a great worker - I'm organized student juggling six classes, three community services, two clubs, and a sport. Taking on this job of Assistant to the Co-Presidents will be no challenge.

2. Leadership background - In my ninth grade year at Andover High School, I was lead engineer for the school's FTC competitive robotics team. We went on to compete in Regionals and getting several awards, including first place. Not only that, I've managed

several online communities as Assistants, which under my leadership (and of course the President's), I've help lead each community to success. The most successful was a Minecraft community called RomeCraft. Another was a WW2 Realism Group named the 22nd Airborne Division (formly the 22nd Regiment of Foot)

3. I'm an Upper - Yup. I'm an Upper. This is my last chance to get a board position (anywhere. pls ;_;). My opponent, Philip, is a great guy, but wouldn't it be best if we were to both get the position? (Him being next year)

2.2   John Koobatian

3 main points:

True to tech: -stick by the core values of the club -keep the fun environment

Tech out of the screen: -3D Printing -keep the software stuff but add more hardware

Dedication:

Editor's Note: The platform abruptly ended here. I copied this verbatim from the email.

2.3   Yatharth Agarwal

Editor's Note: I am going to typeset these limericks the way poetry appears in the Folger edition of Shakespeare's plays

Hello yall, I wanna be Vice-President
Oops, Assistant President is what I meant.
Well, my name is Yatharth.
Nothing rhymes with Yatharth;
I still made this limerick for your amusement:

So now, how will our club grant be spent?
More server problems for the ardent!
Oh, and every club needs some merch:
Like MechTasters teapots on shirts;
I think yall share the same sentiment.

But I wont be hogging too much of your time
Because I set my nice values to plus five.
Thats why Im reciting my breadfish,
Trying hard to not do it with a LISP;
Because its time, time to pkill this lime.

- Time Commitment: I have been attending TechMasters regularly and my sports and Community Service programs for next year do not clash with the meeting time either. Since I am currently a Lower, I will be able to spend a lot more taking, well assisting the Co-Presidents Cam and Karen.

- Retaining new members by split sessions: I love the strong core group of members essential to interesting meetings, but I would also like to see more new faces and a larger, more diverse membership. In order to not bore to death the former or scare away with in-jokes the latter, I propose split sessions targeted at the different experience levels. Whether we alternate meetings, have two simultaneous meetings, split the meeting time into two (and extend it) will be determined based on the number of our members and their preferences.

- Engaging old ones by community presentations: Watching Jake deal with compile-errors is fun and educational, but when the current board graduates :(, I wouldnt want to see Cam and Kar simply hack away on screen instead, as glorious as they may be. Thus, I also propose setting up a system for experienced members of our club to give their own presentations on a particular week (which shall be reviewed by the co-presidents and me in advance, if necessary).
Not only would community-led presentations let us learn from these valuable assets and increase their experience with giving talks, but it would lead to an environment of greater flexibility. I have seen it happen in our Google Developers Group back in Kuwait, and for me personally, giving talks on Markdown, Prezi and Regex Optimization to a bunch of adults really made me feel accepted despite being the only minor there and improved my communication abilities.

- Work Duty: I shall certainly handle work duty sign-ups and probably use a Google Apps Spreadsheet Script to send reminders automatically, but I want to improve the state of TechMasters Work Duty too. On realizing that a lot of people in my CompSci class didnt even know about TM WD, I floated the idea of PANET announcements, and indeed Mr. Mallick has posted one since. I shall not just continue collecting data about how many people were helped and with what, but also when they most often come and what times people would most prefer. Finally, for those of us fortunate enough to be signed up for TM WD, an adapter to use the spare screen at the as a external monitor and an ethernet cable shall also be provided.

Although I feel I am capable of serving as a Webmaster and Servermaster, if I am elected as Assistant to the Presidents I shall be able to serve the club best as a co-president implementing both the above mentioned ideas as well the the ones below. If you found merit in some of the ideas here (or simply like me as a person), vote for me as co-president.

2.4   Philip Lamkin

My name is Philip, and I'm running for the position of assistant to the president of techmasters. I've been part of techmasters for my entire time here, and being a member of the club has been great. Now I'd like to try to help the club by taking on a larger role. A big function of the assistant to the president is organizing work duty, and reminding people of when they have their work duty. No one likes getting an email at 5:30 on a thursday night reminding them that they signed up for work duty a month ago, and will have to rearrange their plans for the evening. If I'm elected, I'll send a reminder email a few days in advance, just to let people know that their work duty is coming up shortly, and then another at a

closer time. This will give everyone time to plan their week, and ensure that they don't make any conflicting commitments. For organization and consistency, vote Philip Lamkin for assistant to the president.

3   Webmaster

3.1   Eric Lee

Okay so I've already written too much by now, so I'll keep it short.
I've handled multiple websites before, one for each of the gaming communities I was a part of in the past. I know HTML/CSS, Javascript, etc.
As a visionary, I see the website transforming from what it is now (lol ew) to a more modern looking, active site for the entire school to peruse.

3.2   Yatharth Agarwal

I have experience with creating and maintaining websites mainly using Python frameworks like Django and Flask and also (quite unfortunately) with PHP. I basically created the position of an intern at a major ISP in Kuwait migrating their website to use Django and writing a backend to liaison between MS WAF and their upcoming mobile app.
If anything, the websites source will be easily comprehensible, manageable by future maintainers and non-duplicative of functionality obtainable from existing frameworks. Furthermore, it will be secure since I have had experience breaking websites in CTFs (more than that in the later section).
At this point I thought Id say a funny web joke, but Ive exhausted my IPv4 ones and lost the UDP ones somewhere

4   Server Administrator

4.1   Eric Lee

I have hosted Source (SRCDS) servers, website servers, and the lot (ALL ON WINDOWS. SOZ LINUX BOYS).
Editor's Note: Y'all probably can guess what I'm going to say here. Anyways, let's move on
I have experience with an actual machine running in my house with these websites and servers.
Yup.

4.2   Tony Tan

Hello! My name is Tony Tan, a Lower who wished that he could go to all the Techmasters meetings. Well, I was able to go to most of them in the fall, but unfortunately my sports commitment prevented me from going to all but one this term. I am running (only) to be the Server Master to help maintain our Techmaster server, which is used for testing, solving

problems, and doing other awesome* things. I used to use a Linux distro as my primary OS, so I will be fully proficient at the job of managing our Linux-based server. Moreover, I will be gaining even more experience, because I am going to be managing a cloud-based Virtual Private Server and turning it into an obfuscated VPN server (used to circumvent the Deep Packet Inspection employed by the "Great Firewall of China"). Rest assured, I will be coming to all the meetings in the Spring because I won't have a sport. I thank you in advance for your votes of support.

∗ Awesome as defined by Jake Herman.

4.3   Yatharth Agarwal

Ive been running Linux for 4 years now, and along the way have had to install Gentoo as well as deal with not-really-*nix-anymore bastard child OS X. I read The Daily WTF, so dont expect those; what you can look forward to are more server challenges yes, theyre back! I was the single-highest individual scorer in PicoCTF this year, and am planning to do a group IP on writing CTF problems; thus, I guarantee that no matter your level there will be an interesting problem for you.