

HCNHS Three Minute Thesis 2016-2017



The Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is an academic competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), Australia for research students. Since 2011 the popularity of the competition has increased and 3MT competitions are now held in over 170 universities across more than 18 countries worldwide. The competition at TCU HCNHS supports both masters and doctoral students in their capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes, in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

There are strict rules:

- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or 'movement' allowed.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment).
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum; competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- Presentations are to commence from the stage.
- Presentations have commenced when a presenter starts moving or speaking.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

And specific judging criteria:

Comprehension & Content

- Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background to the research question being addressed and its significance?
- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
- Was the thesis topic and research significance and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology and provide adequate background information to illustrate points?
- Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation – or did they elaborate for too long on one aspect or was the presentation rushed?

Engagement & Communication

- Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
- Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize their research?
- Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research?
- Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience's attention?
- Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace, and have a confident stance?
- Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation - was it clear, legible, and concise?

HCNHS goals for participating

Useful exercise and experience for current research students

Does not need research data; does not have to be final product of project or final product of thesis

Recruiting: both as illustration of quality of programs and students and as recruiting event

Showcase of graduate research for TCU community and constituents.

Preparation Activities

A 3MT workshop is scheduled for **December 8, noon to 2:00** for any faculty member and graduate students interested in participating in the competition. We will meet in **Bass 1207**.

Applications to participate will be due January 6, 2017.

Departmental Preliminary Auditions

January 31, Feb 1 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (somewhere in this time period)

10 minute window for each participant

Tucker 139 or Bass, cookies and punch afterward

Hand out postcards announcing main event at each preliminary event

Finals Competition

Thursday, March 9, 2017, 4:00-5:00PM

6 maximum competitors

Certificates for each participant

Prizes of 1st (\$500), 2nd (\$400), People's choice (\$400)

Four-Six Judges – want to include community here

Venue is Bass Living Room

Wine and Cheese Reception to follow 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Winners will present at the Student Research Symposium on April 20, 2017 at the Award Ceremony between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. Special Events Gym, University Recreation Center.

You can help!

Encourage faculty and students to participate.

Suggest preliminary & finals judges.

Attend finals event.

Invite prospective graduate students to campus for your program visit and take them to the final competition and reception.