Information for Applicants
WMU 3MT Competition (Grad Talks) Spring 2017
http://www.wmich.edu/gsa/gradtalks
gsa-gradtalks@wmich.edu.

What is the 3MT competition?

The Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition is a celebration of the exciting work done by graduate students working on their thesis or dissertation. The challenge is that students must explain their work to a non-specialist audience in 3 minutes, using one static slide! This is an international program started at the University of Queensland, Australia, and now held at over 170 universities in more than 18 countries. WMU held its first 3MT competition in November 2015.

Application Criteria

1. PowerPoint Slide
   • Aesthetic appeal
     • Color, pictures, fonts, designs
   • Organization
     • Charts, streamline, use of space
   • Amount of visual displays, words, and numbers
   • Terminology, vocabulary, and ease of reading

2. Abstract/Summary
   • Conceptualization of research idea
   • Logistics of research
     • When, where, how, who, and why
   • Results (if applicable)
   • Intended purpose of research

3. Preference
   • All academic departments and programs are welcome to apply and present.
     • Medical school students are not eligible to receive scholarship incentives.
   • Diversity of academic programs will weigh heavily on who is selected to present.
   • 10 student presentations will be selected for the Spring 2017 Grad Talks.
   • Late applications will not be considered.
   • For presentations not selected for the Spring 2017 Grad Talks, reapplication must be submitted for consideration for Fall 2017 Grad Talks.
   • Presentation selections are based on internal criteria set forth by the Director of Professional Development and its subcommittee.

Rules of Presentation:

• A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted (no slide transitions, animations or ‘movement’ of any description, the slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration).
• No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
• No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and 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 are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through movement or speech.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

**Incentives:**
The Graduate Student Association (GSA) will award a 1st place incentive of $500, 2nd place incentive of $300, and a 3rd place incentive of $200. In addition, the student with the highest score from the fall and spring WMU 3MT competitions will represent WMU at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools regional contest and will compete for the chance to participate in the US finals. The winner of the US finals will participate in the International competition.