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

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.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. Comprehension & Content (10 pts)
   - Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background to the research question being addressed and its significance?
   - Did the presentation clearly describe the key results of the research including conclusions and outcomes?
   - Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
   - Was the thesis topic, key results 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?

2. Engagement (10 pts)
   - Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
   - Was the presenter careful not to trivialise or generalise 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?

RULES:
- 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.