

# FACULTY OF ARTS, EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual AEHD 3 MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION

22 July 2011

3.00pm – 6.00pm

Building G, Room 467, Footscray Park Campus

### Faculty Heat

Do you think your research is important? Do you want to tell other people about the cutting-edge work you are doing in a format that ensures they will have the time and attention to listen to your presentation? Are you up for the challenge of condensing your research project into 3 action-packed, highly polished and engaging minutes? Then the 3 Minute Thesis Competition is for you!

#### THE FACULTY, VU AND NATIONAL 3 MINUTE THESIS COMPETITIONS

To prepare for the VU and National Competition, the Faculty of Arts, Education and Human Development will run a Faculty-based competition to give participants a chance to practice and hone their presentations for the VU-wide competition, which will select the finalist to represent VU at the Inaugural Australia and New Zealand Universities' National 3 Minute Thesis Competition in September 2011.

The Faculty Heat presentations will be a chance for students to practice their presentations and get feedback from the audience.

#### WHAT CAN YOU WIN?

Two prizes will be awarded by the Faculty: a prize for best 3 Minute Thesis presentation awarded by the judging panel and a People's Choice award from the audience.

The presentation judged best by the Faculty of AEHD judging panel will be awarded a **First Prize of \$200**. The presentation judged best by members of the audience on the day of The Faculty 3 Minute Thesis Competition will be awarded a **People's Choice prize of \$100**. Judges' and People's Choice

award decisions will be final and are not subject to amendment or appeal.

## HOW TO REGISTER

If you are interested in participating, we must have your registration before the Competition to assess interest and student numbers for catering and room booking purposes. Please complete the Registration Form attached and submit by the deadline of 24 June 2011.

## WHAT IS THE 3 MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION?

The 3 Minute Thesis Competition is an exciting opportunity to show off your skills in presenting a highly polished, economical version of your research project and its importance within **3 minutes** to an audience of other student and staff researchers in the Faculty and University.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER?

- All currently enrolled Victoria University Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students who have received candidature approval from the Faculty at Masters or Doctoral level are eligible to enter.
- For the Faculty level competition, you must be a currently enrolled student in one of the four Schools in Arts, Education and Human Development.

At the VU level, all HDR students enrolled at the University are eligible to participate. At the VU competition in August (date to be confirmed), VU will select one student to represent the University at the National Competition to be held in September 2011. The University of Western Australia will host the 2011 Australia & New Zealand 3MT Competition on Thursday 29th September 2011. The venue will be the Octagon Theatre, situated in the grounds of UWA, <http://www.postgraduate.uwa.edu.au/news/3mt>.

## TRAINING WORKSHOPS (provided by the Office for Postgraduate Research)

- Students are recommended to undertake the training workshops provided by the OPR. Workshops for 2011 will be held on 28 June, 30 June and 5 July. Details and venues of these workshops will be listed on the OPR website at: <http://www.vu.edu.au/research/office-for-postgraduate-research>.

Each Faculty will host 'heats' on the dates below. Please contact the Faculty Advice Officer for venue details:

Faculty of Health, Engineering and Science:	20 July 2011 ( <a href="mailto:sue.davies@vu.edu.au">sue.davies@vu.edu.au</a> )
Faculty of Business and Law:	21 July 2011 ( <a href="mailto:tina.jeggo@vu.edu.au">tina.jeggo@vu.edu.au</a> )

## RULES OF COMPETITION

The Faculty rules are the same as the National Rules of the competition. The Rules are non-negotiable, and they are:

- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted (no slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description)
- No additional electronic media (eg. Sound and video files) are permitted
- No additional props (eg costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified from the competition.

- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

A panel of 5 judges will give each competitor a score out of ten for each criterion. Fractional scores (eg. 7.5) will be allowed.

The judging criteria for the Faculty competition are the same as the National Criteria and will be judged on the basis of three criteria: They will be:

- **Communication style:** was the thesis topic and significance communicated in language appropriate to an intelligent but non-specialist audience? For example:
  - Did the *title* of the talk give a clear picture of the topic and its importance?
  - Were all *technical or specialist* words clearly explained for a non-specialist audience?
  - Was the communication style *clear enough* so that any intelligent person could now sum up the topic and its significance?
- **Comprehension:** did the presentation help the audience understand the research? For example:
  - Did the speaker deliver their presentation at an *appropriate pace*?
  - Was there a *storyline* that helped the audience understand the research problem, its importance and how the research would or did address that problem?
  - Did the PowerPoint slide help the audience *better understand* the topic and its significance?
- **Engagement:** did the oration make the audience want to know more? For example:
  - Did the speaker engage the audience with *eye contact*?
  - Did the speaker *engage interest* in the problem being researched?
  - Would you now like to join this research for *further discussion* about their work?

Each Faculty judging panel will be required to nominate their top two (2) students to compete in the VU 3 Minute Grand Final Competition which will be held in August (Date to be confirmed).

## WHAT DOES A WINNING PRESENTATION LOOK LIKE?

View the [presentation from the winner](#) of the 3MT competition at UQ in 2010.

Hear an [ABC interview with finalists](#) from the 3MT competition at UQ in 2010 (under "UQ 3MT Competition - Media").

## History

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT) is an academic competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ) in 2008 for research higher degree students. In 2010 VU promoted the inaugural event with 8 students presenting in the AEHD Faculty Heat.

Refreshments will be provided at the end of the Faculty Competition.

Look forward to receiving your nomination form for this Faculty Event.