

Dear Judges:

Let me begin by introducing our judging panel:

Mr. Rob Baker – Lead Guitarist for the Tragically Hip. Rob is a long-time supporter of the 3MT having served as a judge for every provincial competition.

Ms. Donna Wellington – Chief Executive Officer, Behavioral Health Sciences – Henry Ford Health System. Donna is a proud UWindsor alumnus holding both BSN and MBA degrees.

Mr. Tony Doucette – Host, Windsor Morning – CBC Radio. Tony has been instrumental to the success of the UWindsor 3MT competitions having served as emcee for all local events.

Dr. Kathleen McCrone – Professor Emeritus, History – University of Windsor. A recognized leader in women’s history Kate held several senior leadership appointments during her career and was an outstanding role model.

Background:

The 3MT is a research communication, professional skills competition event that was launched at the University of Queensland in 2008. Our own Nick Baker from the Office of Open Learning was on the inaugural planning committee at Queensland and now lends his expertise to training our participants. The first competition was held at the University of Windsor in 2013, aligned with the first Ontario provincial competition. The Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) began hosting a virtual national competition in 2014.

How has the pandemic impacted 3MT competitions?

Thank you for volunteering to be a judge in our Provincial 3MT competition. Traditionally a local university 3MT competition involved high definition videos, a stage, full body view of the presenter and a large audience. Given the challenges imposed by the global pandemic, many Ontario institutions were unable to host an in-person event and pivoted to a fully virtual event. This entailed student presenters videotaping themselves at home, often on a cell phone. What this means for you as judges is that you are going to see a wide variety of quality, views etc. in the videos you are judging. We are hoping that you will accommodate your scoring to these differences, and under the “communication” category below focus on verbal communication, pace and the slides more than non-verbal communication.

The guidelines of the 3MT are as follows:

1. A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted.
2. Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum.
3. Presentations are to be spoken word.
4. Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through movement or speech.

These guidelines were met by our 2020 participants.

In a live competition it is always exciting to see how close to 3-minutes a participant gets!

Judging:

Presentations are judged on the following criteria:

1. **Communication** – Was the thesis/dissertation/major paper topic and its significance communicated in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
2. **Comprehension** – Did the presentation help the audience understand the scholarly and/or creative activity?
3. **Engagement** – Did the presentation make the audience want to know more?

More specifically,

Communication

When deciding your score, consider the following criteria:

- Did the presenter use language and terminology that was clear and understandable?
- Was the pace of the talk effective?
- Did the slide enhance, rather than detract from, the talk – was it clear, legible, and concise?
- Did the presenter use non-verbal communication (i.e. eye contact, voice modulation etc.) effectively?

Comprehension

When deciding your score, consider the following criteria:

- Did the talk help you to understand the scholarly research and creativity?
- Did the presenter clearly outline the nature and purpose of the scholarly research and creativity?
- Did the presenter clearly indicate what is interesting about the scholarly research and creativity?
- Did the talk follow a logical sequence?

Engagement

When deciding your score, consider the following criteria:

- Was the talk engaging?
- Did the talk inspire you to want to know more?
- Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their work?
- Did the presenter capture and maintain your attention?

How many winners are there?

The competition will name five winners, the first 5 of whom would normally move onto a National Virtual final hosted by the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS). Given the pandemic and the fact that some regions across Canada have not been able to mobilize competitions, this year CAGS will host a showcase where anyone can submit their research video. This National level showcase will be a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the valuable research that continues despite the pandemic.

The 2020 Provincial competition will recognize the following:

1st place - \$1,000 National representative

2nd place - \$500 National representative

3rd place - \$250 National representative

4th place – National representative

5th place – National representative

People’s choice - \$250 – chosen by participants

In addition, we will forward any other videos from participants who wish to participate in the National showcase early in 2021.

Thank you to the Ontario Universities for their support of this event, and to Noah Campbell for technical assistance.

To view the recordings and to submit your scores, please go to:

<https://www.uwindsor.ca/graduate-studies/1509/ontario-3mt-2020-finalists>

Please submit your scores no later than January 11, 2021 by 3 p.m.