The Three-Minute Thesis Challenge was originally developed at The University of Queensland, and this competition has been adapted from the original guidelines. This year’s ADSA Three-Minute Thesis Challenge will showcase ADSA graduate student members presenting their thesis topics. These respective members will be selected prior to the annual meeting on the basis of a 300-word abstract and the strength of their curriculum vita as determined by a panel of judges. The purpose of this competition is to challenge students to present an overall picture of their research project and its greater implications in a manner that is appropriate for an audience of consumers. The presentation should be content driven and maintain a scientific basis while also being accessible to all audiences. Cash prizes will be given to the top-placing students.

**Competition Rules**

To standardize the presentations in the competition, these rules are to be followed.

1. A SINGLE PowerPoint slide may be used, and the PowerPoint slide may NOT use animations.
2. No additional electronic media such as sound and video files are permitted.
3. Presentations are limited to three minutes. Presentations exceeding three minutes will be penalized.
4. The timer will begin when the competitor begins to speak.
5. The student will receive an indication from the timekeeper when 30 seconds remain.
6. The panel of judges has the final decision.

**Judging Criteria**

At least three judges will evaluate presentations on the basis of the following criteria and assign a score of 1 to 10 for each criterion, with 1 being poor and a 10 being excellent. Each criterion within each category carries equal weight. Scores will be totaled, and winners will be determined by those with the greatest total score.

**Category 1: Comprehension**

1. Did the presentation describe the background and significance of the research?
2. Did the presentation describe the experimental procedures, results, and conclusions of the research?
3. Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?

**Category 2: Engagement**

1. Did the presentation make the audience want to know more and capture the audience’s attention?
2. Was the presenter careful to not trivialize or oversimplify their research?
3. Was the presenter enthusiastic about their research and outcomes?

**Category 3: Communication**

1. Was the research topic, results, and significance communicated appropriately for the audience?
2. Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology, and provide adequate background information?
3. Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact, and vocal range; maintain a steady pace; and have a confident stance?
4. Was the PowerPoint slide used appropriately to enhance the presentation and convey information?

**Category 4: Time Management**

1. Was the presentation given in three minutes or less?