

Flash Talk Competition - GREAT 2021

In *three minutes*, could you:

- **Explain** your research to a prospective employer?
- **Convince** a potential donor to support your project?
- **Share** your discoveries with a non-specialist audience?
- **Entice** others to want more information about your research?



Do you want to improve your communication and presentation skills?

The Flash Talk competition is a research communication competition that will challenge you to present your thesis or dissertation research in just three minutes to a non-specialist audience. You will need to decide on the most important points of your research, craft an interesting and engaging narrative, then deliver in a clear, concise, and confident manner in three minutes or less using only one static PowerPoint slide as a visual aid.

The competition is open to OUHSC graduate students, professional students, and postdoctoral fellows

Students must be enrolled for Spring 2021.

[Click here to complete your Flash Talk competition entry form for the GREAT Symposium 2021.](#)

You will need to provide the title of your talk and list all authors involved by February 28th. Preliminary rounds will be pre-recorded (deadline to submit slide and video to the Graduate College is March 5th) and will be available for preliminary judging Wednesday 10th until March 17th to select finalists. The final Flash Talk competition will be held live although on Zoom during the GREAT Symposium, March 24th, 2021. Judges will choose an overall First Place winner and the audience will vote to choose a People's Choice winner. Awards, including cash prizes for First Place and for People's Choice, will be announced at the GREAT Symposium Awards Ceremony Thursday, March 25th via Zoom.

Official Rules - Flash Talk Competition

Details

- Presentations are limited to **3 minutes maximum** and competitors exceeding 3 minutes will be disqualified.
- Video recording: include an extra slide with your name, title of your presentation and mentor name, and you will announce these before starting your talk. The 3 minute timer will then start as you begin to speak your actual presentation.

Videos made on phones or by Zoom are fine, but if you have trouble you can contact the Graduate College office (Catina-Jordan@ouhsc.edu) and arrange a time on March 1st or March 2nd to have Media record it. Please submit in video format (recommended: 16:9 aspect ratio, ≥720p resolution) using the following instructions:

1. Save your video as: FirstnameLastname_FlashTalk
2. Upload your video to a personal Google Drive account
3. Share your video and enable "editor" permissions with Carla-Shackelford@ouhsc.edu or amy-tucker@ouhsc.edu

- Time begins when the competitor begins speaking.
- Competitors must give their presentation from a fixed place; poems, raps or songs (etc.) and/or moving around the room are not allowed.
- **A single, static PowerPoint slide** is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or “movement” of anything on the slide is allowed.
- No additional electronic media (i.e. sound or video files, 3D moving graphics etc) are permitted.
- No additional props (i.e. costumes, musical instruments, lab equipment etc) are permitted.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

Calendar of Events

February 5th, 2021

- Abstract submissions open!

February 28th, 2021

- Deadline to register for Flash Talk competition

March 5th

- Deadline to submit your static PowerPoint file to Carla-Shackelford@ouhsc.edu or amy-tucker@ouhsc.edu and share recorded video via GoogleDrive: 4:00 pm on March 5th

March 10th- March 17th

- Flash Talk recordings available for pre-judging March 10th- March 17th. (See the Schedule of Presentations page for details)

March 24th, 2021

- Flash Talk Final competition will be held during the GREAT Symposium, Wednesday, March 24th at 1pm, via Zoom. (See the Schedule of Presentations page for full details)

March 25th, 2021

- First Place (judged winner) and People’s Choice Awards for Flash Talks (cash prizes) will be awarded at the GREAT Symposium Awards Ceremony immediately following the Keynote Address at 1pm, via Zoom. Grab n’ go reception immediately following the awards ceremony, details to follow.

Resources

- Flash Talk Judging Criteria (see next page)
- 2021 Pre-GREAT Workshop on Flash Talk / 3 Minute Thesis by Dr. Brenda Smith (video recording)
- [Examples: Similar Competition Winners' Videos](#) (link to videos)
- [Common Strategies Toward a Successful 3MT Presentation](#) (link to video)
- [TED's Secret to Great Public Speaking](#) (link to video)
- NIH [Checklist for Communicating Science and Health Research to the Public](#)
- [Slideshow with good tips](#) from the Australian National University’s Dr. Inger Mewburn
- [Science Communication Media](#) website with videos and instructional content

Questions? Contact the Graduate College:

Catina Jordan, Assistant to the Dean, Catina-Jordan@ouhsc.edu, 405-271-2085, or Dr. Amy Tucker, Assistant Dean for Graduate Education and Research, amy-tucker@ouhsc.edu, 405-271-2085

2021 GREAT SYMPOSIUM Flash Talk Score Sheet

Please judge the Flash Talk presentation according to the criteria below.
Going over 3 minutes leads to disqualification

	Outstanding	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Background and Research Question: Did the presenter provide an understanding of background and clearly present the research question?	1	2	3	4	5
Results and Conclusion: Did the presenter clearly describe results and conclusions? Did the presenter describe any societal impact?	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of the presentation: Was the presentation clear (no jargon), logical, and concise? Understood by a non-scientific audience?	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of the presenter: Enthusiastic, good stage presence, and confident?	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of the Slide: Was the PowerPoint slide well-organized, insightful, and attractive?	1	2	3	4	5

Total Score: _____