



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

3MT® Information Session

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About 3MT

- The Three Minute Thesis (3MT[®]) is a competition that celebrates the exciting research conducted by Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students.
- Developed by The University of Queensland (UQ) to bring together students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills.
- It began in 2008 and is now held in over 900 universities across more than 80 countries worldwide.
- The competition supports PhD candidates' capacity to effectively explain their research in language that is appropriate to a non-specialist audience in the space of three minutes.
- The competition is based on the premise of being able to present a clear, concise and engaging description of your research as an essential skill that all graduate researchers should develop.



Confidentiality and intellectual property guidelines

- The 3MT® presentation must represent original research of the competitor.
- Due to the nature of the competition, judges, staff and the audience will **not** be asked to agree to or sign non-disclosure statements for any participant.
- All public sessions of the competition are open to the public at large. Any and all of these public sessions may be broadcast to interested persons through media which may include the Internet.
- Any data or information discussed or divulged by entrants should be considered information that will likely enter the public realm, and entrants should not assume any right of confidentiality in any data or information discussed, divulged or presented in these sessions.
- The University may use the materials in any book or other printed materials and any videotape or other medium that it may produce, provided that any profits earned from the sale of such items is used by the University solely to defray the costs of future competitions.



Who can participate

- Active PhD and Professional Doctorate (Research) candidates of the University of Melbourne **who have successfully passed their confirmation milestone** (including candidates whose thesis is under submission) by the closing date of the video submissions (16 June 2021).
- Graduates, Professional Doctorate (coursework), and Masters (both coursework and MPhil) students are not eligible to compete.



Why participate

Benefits of participating

- Learn to communicate your research.
- Demystify your research in the eyes of the University community and the general public.
- It's one of the rare opportunities during your PhD when you can sell your research.
- Build your confidence and improve your speaking skills.
- Begin building your public profile.
- Network and make friends with other graduate researchers.
- It's a lot of fun and generates interest in what you're doing.



Why participate

Grand Final Prizes

Winner: \$4,000 grant and the opportunity to represent the University in the Asia-Pacific 3MT Competition hosted by The University of Queensland.
Awarded the perpetual McPhee Cup.

Runner Up: \$2,000 grant

People's Choice: \$1,000 grant





The Rules

- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes and videos exceeding 3 minutes will not be accepted.
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through speech (timing does not include the 3MT cover slide and commences from when the competitor starts speaking, not the start of the video)
- Videos must meet the following criteria:
 - Filmed on the horizontal
 - Filmed on a plain background
 - Filmed from a static position
 - Filmed from one camera angle
 - Contain a 3MT cover slide
 - Contain a 3MT PowerPoint information slide (top right corner/right side/cut to)



The Rules

- The 3-minute audio must be continuous – no sound edits or breaks.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted within the video recording.
- No props (e.g. costumes, instruments, laboratory equipment and animated backgrounds) are permitted.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- Submissions via video format only. Files sent in other formats will not be accepted.
- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted but no slide transitions, animations or 'movement' of any description can be used. The slide can be continuously visible, or 'cut to' (as many times as you like) for a maximum of 1 minute.

Name

School / Institute

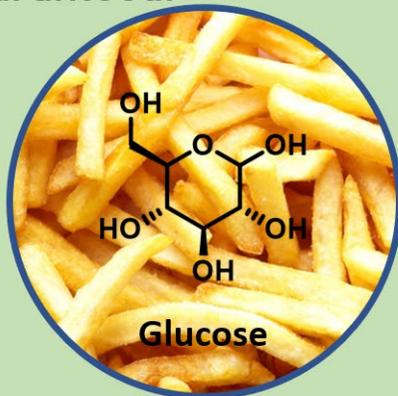
Faculty

3MT Title

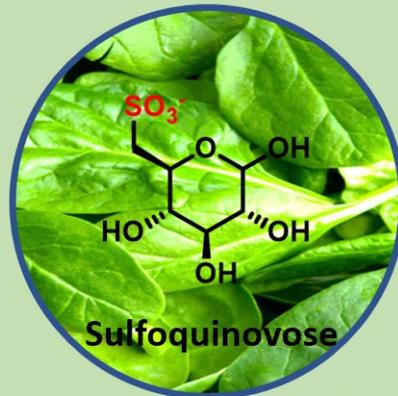
Bright lights, restless nights?

Ashton Dickerson
School of Biosciences, Faculty of Science, The University of Melbourne

The sulfoquinovose diet: metabolic changes guaranteed!



Glucose



Sulfoquinovose

Janice Mui

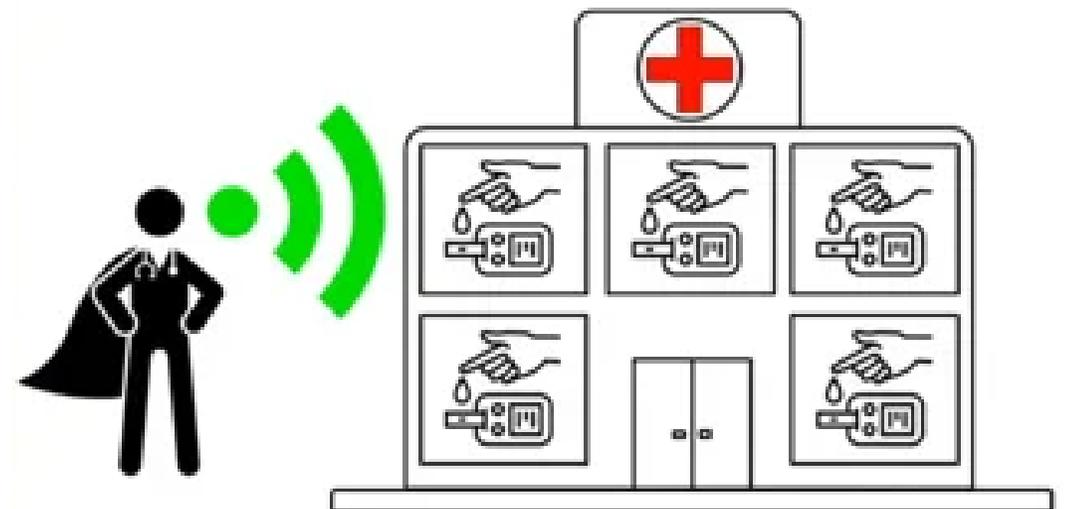
Reducing behaviour emergencies in autistic children

Marijke Mitchell



Glucose in Hospital: Riding the Sugar-Coaster

- Rahul Barmanray





Ashton Dickerson

School of Biosciences
Faculty of Science

Bright lights, restless nights?

Carmen Glanville

Animal Welfare Science Centre
Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences
Transforming lives: pets and people

Volkan Uzungil

Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
A rapid solution for the blues

Image credit: Joanna Durrant

Before image: provided by
RSPCA Victoria
After image: photographed by
Carmen Glanville



Image reference: "A guide to compassionate first aid"

<https://www.stavathomemum.com.au/my-lifestyle/what-you-can-do-to-help-someone-with-depression/>





Judgement Day

Comprehension and content

- Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background and significance to the research question being addressed while explaining terminology and avoiding jargon?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the impact, results and/or conclusions of the research (intended or actual)?
- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
- Was the thesis topic, research significance, results/impact and/or outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation - or did they elaborate for too long or rush through one aspect?



Judgement Day

Engagement and communication

- 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; and maintain a steady pace, and have a confident stance?
- Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation - was it clear, legible, and concise?



The Rules

Please note:

Competitors **will not** be judged on video/recording quality or editing capabilities. Judging will focus solely on the presentation, ability to communicate research to a non-specialist audience, and the 3MT Information slide.

You are not judged on the impact of your research. As mentioned in the previous slides, judges are looking for how you present your research and how well you engage with the audience.



How To Take Part

- Participants will submit their video in an open round of the 3MT competition. Video submissions will open on Monday 10 May and close at 11:59pm on Wednesday 16 June. All presentations must be uploaded online (eg. Vimeo) with a link provided to the Program Officer. The Program Officer must be able to download the video in order to collate entries together.
- Videos will be watched by our panel of judges and individual feedback will be provided on each entry. These will be recorded and sent to each participant on Friday 25 June.
- On Monday 28 June, a video presentation will be made public, announcing the ten finalists.
- Finalists can make changes to their 3MT video and must provide the link to the new video to the Program Officer by Thursday 15 July.
- The grand final presentation will take place on Wednesday 21 July. The winner of this will then represent the University in the Asia-Pacific competition.



What Next?

- Register for the **3MT Advice Session** on Monday 10 May, 10:00 – 11:00am:
<http://go.unimelb.edu.au/y92i>

You will learn some tips and tricks for creating an impressive 3MT presentation, as well as how to do so with the new virtual format. This session will help you better prepare for the task of presenting your thesis effectively and succinctly.

- Once you have sent your completed video to me, I will send you a link to formally register for the competition.



Things To Think About

- **Write A Script**
 - Use shorter words, short sentences and short paragraphs
 - Choose active verbs over passive verbs
 - Avoid jargon, acronyms and 'academic' words, etc.
 - Qualify unknown concepts, people, places, etc.
 - Make sure your presentation has a beginning, a middle and an end
 - Be aware of rhythm and pacing
 - Write too much and then cut back
 - Figure out what your 'hook' is
 - Read it out loud to yourself
- Watch videos from previous years. They can provide you with a lot of ideas on what could work for you and your presentation: <http://go.unimelb.edu.au/y54r>



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Thank you

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