All right, welcome everyone. Thank you for joining us. My name is Megan Brewer. For those of you who I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet, I'm the graduate research development advisor for usually the sciences stem. But sometimes when we do presentation work, this is something that I really enjoy doing.

So, I'll cover everyone And then we've also got Dr. Jen Roland here from FMHHS. So, everyone in FMHHS should recognise her and she's also really great at presentations and helping candidates work through their presentation. So that's why she's on board and she's also the one that's been pushing for us to enter the visualise, your thesis competition, as well.

Yes. So I'd like to start by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the lands upon which we're joining from today, the Walla Medical Clan of the Dark Nation whose cultures and customs have nurtured and continue to nurture these lands. I'd like to pay my respects to Elder's past present and emerging.

All right, so first part of this workshop is going to be very and general information about the 3MT. And at the end, we'll talk about the VYT. So, and then in the middle, we're going to get into actually talking about. How do you sell or tell your research in a storytelling manner?

Okay, so three minute thesis who's actually entered before and I know there's a couple in the room. Yep honey I remember working with you last time. Okay, so actually not that many hands going up. Interesting. So it's a great competition to enter. Why are we not working now? Sorry, I'm recording on my computer and Okay.

Sorry, if I need to speak up. Let me know. So, the three minute thesis it is basically. You want it to be an engaging talk that tells the significance of your research and what it's about And you have three minutes and it's a dead three minutes. If you go over, you're out, that is one of them qualifying rules, Okay?

So you need to make sure that you can talk about your research within that timeframe. And the audience for this particular competition is non-specialist audience but other university level. So talking to other academics researchers but not particularly in your area of research which is a little bit different to the VYG which is more of a general audience.

Okay. And this was developed by was at UQ. Yeah. University of Queensland basically the idea came about from a researcher who was back in those days. We had big drop periods. So we were on a lot of water restrictions and they were recommending that we only shower for three minutes and they thought up, well, what if I tried to tell my research within that time period?

Could I do it? Could I do it within the length of a shower? So that's how this kind of came about, which was a bit of a random way of doing it, I guess. Yeah. So, you know, that's, that's where you can start practising as well when you're having a shower.

Think about you know we're not on as many water restrictions at the moment because we're still in linear, but we'll get there soon. Okay, so why do we do this? Oh sorry. What's the aim we want to? So I probably need to know my slideshow, bit better, Explain our research, Be able to explain and communicate your research to non-specialists audiences.

This is a great skill to develop because often we need to canvas support from other stakeholders, people outside of academia. And a lot of us won't end up in a straight research position anyway. And so we may need to convey and tell other people about our research or we may need to translate other people's research as part of our jobs when we move out into industry.

So having that ability to distil, what's the main point? What's the mean key significance of that? What elements are really relevant for someone to understand the research is a great skill to develop as part of your candidature. It's also a great way to promote high degree researching itself and also promote your own research.

So basically you're going to end up especially with the virtual versions. You're going to end up with a lovely little video that you can show other people or you know tweet put on your social media put on your LinkedIn and that can help, you know, promote your research and promote you as a researcher to as well as having that, you know, ability to just tell your research to someone else.

So someone, you know, randomly in the street comes up and like, what are you working on? You can go and help them explain it to them in a way that will hopefully convey that message across really easily. So why else would you do this? So definitely develop your skills and I said a portfolio face and there is a little bit it's very small but a little bit of fame and fortune there as well.

So like last year, the 12 finalists, so the 12 Macquarie finalists. If you make it into that round will be interviewed on two SER which is our radio station at Macquarie University, but it's a wide broad custard radio station. So that's a great opportunity for you to develop further your communication skills and also get your research out there to a wider audience.

And we also have some research prizes and these are just the Macquarie final prizes. So this is research funding to go towards your research project. If your department and definitely your faculty are having heat, then they will also have prize money as well. Okay, varying degree, varying amount. Depends on your faculty and departments and what they're offering about it's definitely something to you know, look out for every bit of money for research goes away.

All right, so entry I said this is the more technical side of things. So those who can enter, you must be enrolled in a PhD or an Enfield. So, with the 3MT, and this is sort of mandated from the from University of Queensland and they're funding, or they're competition rules.

So Emirates candidates cannot enter at the Macquarie level but some faculty departments and some faculties and departments / schools are allowing you to enter at that level. So do we have any MRS? Candidates in here at the moment? Yep. So, which faculty are you in? Don't forget your parts.

Okay. All right. So you probably want to talk to your faculty liaison Beppi and ask if they're allowing Emma's candidates to answer the three empty. Yep. Yep. Definitely faculty of medicine, human side, health sciences. I also the problem. Yeah. Okay. Business and science signs. I don't think are allowing emers as far as I know.

Macquarie business school, I'm not actually sure. So maybe contact mail, and listen. Want to do that too right now. Mount Hubbard. Yeah. Yes. And so you need to be a candidate at the time of the heat the first heat that you enter so that might be a department. He it might be a faculty heat.

I think all the faculty should be having hits so to come down to numbers a little bit. So you need to be but if you're submitting within like the time of the first heat and then you submit, you're still eligible to continue up the ranks. If you have already submitted though and you're under examination, or if you're graduated, you're not eligible to participate.

Yeah, And technically if you haven't passed your confirmation of Canada, you're also not eligible to eat. We to enter. So what dip? Okay, so you good. You can continue to pay attention that I also The motivated us to. Okay, great and Thursday there inspired by the medical faculty.

Okay, so the role specifically we've got stay within three minutes. I said that's the hard and fast rule Any faculty or department that may be doing live heat and there's been some discussion. It's not completely settled. If some of the departments and schools may decide to do that, they will cut you off at three minutes or they may let you speak finish but essentially your disqualified with the virtual it so the three minutes starts from the moment, you start speaking.

So you can have a bit of video time at the beginning of silence and that won't count. Because obviously, otherwise that's gonna be very awkward video. Same. If you're giving a presentation, you would probably take time to walk up on stage and then start. And that's when they start the counter that then they'll cut you off and if you go over you'll be automatically.

Disqualified one static slide. Okay sir? No animations. Nothing popping up. Just the one single slide. Most people are getting pretty good at remembering that rule, there's been occasional incidences. Usually when this competition first started, people would start to, you know, try and add in a few bit of bits of information and have things pop up.

Again automatic disqualification, you need to speak your research so that goes back to. So this point here, so no excessively creative writing song writing a poem. Unfortunately, for this particular competition, that's not the focus of this competition So with the virtual 3MT you want to stay in frame So there's not a huge amount of room that you want to be walking around.

So it's a very still sort of presentation as opposed to, if you're giving a live presentation, you have much more skirt to be able to move around the area and that's permissible on stage. You need to film continuously for three minutes. So you can't edit that video and if there's obvious cutting again, that video will be disqualified.

So you do what to try and memorise your talk. Okay. Three minutes goes quite quickly. So no animation, no props or costumes in this particular competition. So it's really you're relying on the content of your speech, the delivery of the speech and your supplied supporting you and no other media understand aside from you speaking.

So, this competition is really about the presentation itself.

All right. So judging criteria, This has changed a little bit from last year and the bit that's changes. This first bit, so the comprehension and content. So we have presentation provided a clear background and significance to the research question. So, it's the first thing you need to make sure you're covering presentation, provided clear, positionality of the presenter, to the research and research approach.

Those this is completely new to this year and I'll talk a little bit more about that in the next slide presentation. Clearly described the research strategy, the design and the findings. And there was a clear, conclusion, outcomes and impact of the research. So because of this sort of judging criteria, those of you who are in your later stages of your PhD, I probably going to fare better than those in the earlier stages just because you'll probably have more data to talk about or more about your research findings to talk about.

But that doesn't rule out those of you who are early in, your candidates are either right? Because it's still, how do you present it? How do you put all this together? Because the other half is the engagement in communication. So the aeration was delivered. Clearly language was appropriate. Okay, so a lot of the times, especially at the, the faculty heats, you probably will have judges, who are from at least that faculty.

Although, as we know that disciplines within that faculty are quite broad. So, again, they're not going to be specialists in your particular niche field. But definitely for the Macquarie final, we have judges who generally sit much higher or they work across disciplines, have varying backgrounds in their own research disciplines as well.

Okay, The PowerPoint slide was welded fine and enhanced the presentation So it's not just there for the sake of being there, it's actually adding something to your talk adding value to that presentation. Not distracting from the presentation either. The presenter, conveyed enthusiasm for their research and captured and maintained the audience as attention, okay?

So, how was your delivery, were you able to engage the audience and keep that audiences engagement within the three minutes? Okay, I think that's the last. Yep. So and often that what they all say to the judges is do you feel like wanting to know more about that particular topic?

Do you want to then go up afterwards and talk to that researcher and delve into that? So that's what you're aiming for. You want to have a complete story in there. But at the same time in type being typing to the audience to engage more with your research, okay?

So positionality. So some of you may have come across this before in your own research others this may be a completely new sort of idea or concept. A lot of us do this in our talks naturally anyway, but basically it's sort of positioning ourselves within our research based on our identity, how we identify ourselves, what classes, we might be part of will groups or so forth and how they might influence our research, Okay?

It's not the main focus So because it's new and there's probably a knee-jerk reaction to try and really make this very explicit and put and it might be difficult to put it in or we might be trying too hard to put it in so we don't want to make it too much of an emphasis but it does need to be in there.

So typically it would be at the beginning of your introduction when you're also talking about the background to your research but it can come at any point throughout the talk. And so that'll depend on the flow of that information. Some examples might be sort of your life experiences. Have driven you to a point where you're now researching this topic.

It could also be understanding, you know, how you might position yourself with that particular research topic. I don't know if you have any other thoughts will comment on that. Does anyone else has anyone actually written or included a positionality statement in their writing some nuts? Yeah, I mean, so, what did you include too much?

My topic? Very well. So it's just about, I guess, the people around me. Have been affected by cancer. That's my research help again. Yeah, transitions into that. Okay, yeah. Thank you. It's more of a motivation. I think if you include a motivation state. Yep. Yes. Or thinking about your motivation, why are we doing it?

Sort of also builds into like why should anyone care about this as well? I just

I think, sir.

That's usually where the positionality comes from, but I think for some of us that might not be as direct. So I think that's okay. It's new. This is the first time the judges are being asked to judge on it as well. So it's hard for us to be able to really tell like what exactly they're looking for and I think it'll be interesting to see how this plays out this year.

So this is new for all across the board and again, this comes from University of Queensland. So it'll be interesting to see how that plays out, so don't stress too much on it. But again, I guess I'm just making this making it aware that this is a thing that you do need to be aware about to make sure that you are thinking about it and including it.

So these are some sort of questions that I found from this blog article on positionality again you know. Hopefully, these will help you prompt some ideas. Yeah, that's all I can really say about this. I so sorry about that. And these lies will be available on the website afterwards, so you can have a look through these and also get access to the links to

Okay, Yep. All right. So again for the most part, this will be a virtual 3MT. We're hoping that eventually, we'll go back to in-person face-to-face, presentations, possibly with virtual available, for those who cannot make it on campus, but we'll see how that trans out in the future. But this year they've decided that it's it's going to be virtual for the age of Pacific and so we're keeping in line with what they're doing, partly?

Because there are slightly different skills in presenting live versus on a screen. So yes, that's something to think about. Okay, So you need to prerecord your presentation. So some things you want to think about your gesturing and we'll go through this a little bit more details in the next part.

But think about where you're framing how your video capturing. So when I teach, I often sit right in front of my computer because I need to see the slides. And so it's only capturing my face which means if I do any hand gestures I'm just like floundering behind underneath, which sometimes that's not a bad thing that everyone can't see it.

But sometimes you know those gestures if they mean something and we're trying to use them to emphasise a point, then we need to make sure that we're capturing. So typically, we capture sort of, from the waist down, for most of the virtual 3MTs, if you look through some examples, that's what you're mostly see.

You also need to make space for the slide, so the slide will be digitally placed into the screen on your side, and you probably want to avoid having it, you know, so cramped up in this section here because it's very difficult. I mean, even if you imagine that full screen, it's still very difficult to see what's on her slide.

So you need to shift over a little bit when you're filming, which seems a little bit weird that you're off centre. If you're planning to go with this particular style of presentation, There is another style that I'll go through in a minute that you can stand right in the middle and be the focus.

Okay, try and have a plain background. No, or if you cannot get a plain background, you know, at least maybe blow your background. So we're not seeing things like your bedroom or the mess that you haven't quite cleaned up yet. Think about lighting. So think about, you know, not filming in the darks, you don't have shadows over your face, make sure you pay attention to audio too.

So how are you recording the audio? Is it picking up your voice properly? If you're going to use microphones, make sure your hair's not in the way so it's like rubbing and making that staticky excess noise and things like that. This is a list of a few other things to think about, I will leave that there for you to have a look in your own time.

One thing to think about though. So, one thing to remember is that we aren't supposed to be judging on quality of video. Okay, so you we want you to make use of what you have available, we don't want you going out buying expensive filming gear, unless that's something you want to buy and you want to use that as an excuse.

We won't stop you but we're not also encouraging you to spend, you shouldn't have to spend money on this to enter that being said there. If it's really shorty quality natural instinct is that we kind of will judge you down against others. So you want to find that nice balance.

Now, this will mostly affect your entry into the department and school level and perhaps the faculty level, but I think most of the faculties are willing to help you once you get, if you win your faculty or if you're one of the top three that go into the Macquarie final, quite a lot of the faculties have resources to help you get that video together for the final.

I know you want to faculties it off of that and you don't one of the driving thoughts for frame that so yeah and definitely if you win the Macquarie final and go on to the age of Pacific, we will be providing a bit of coaching and also will help record that final video.

So you can represent us as your absolute best, Okay? So as I mentioned, there's two formats that you can use. The first is the slide will be in your top. That is well if you're facing left but right side on the screen and it just stays there. Okay. So you need to film in such a way that you've made space for that to exist virtually around here.

I just saw a video last night and they actually kept looking at that point even though and like as if they were looking at this slide, which was a nice little touch. But generally your slides not actually there while you record. The alternative way is to film yourself straight on in the middle and then you would cut into your slides.

So your slide would show up and cover the whole screen for a little bit and then go away and then come back in again as and go away as needed. So the slide if you use the cut in, can stay in for a total of 30 seconds, max as a total, so you can do five seconds, push it away, five seconds, move it away.

You would have your continuous recording going along in the background of that slide.

You need a film in the horizontal position, try and pick a flame background so Juliet. You can see there has put up a bed sheet with clearly got all the folds still there, so, maybe iron it out beforehand. Or if you can find a plain wall film from aesthetic position, so the camera just needs to stay still.

And you stay within that frame, there is a 3NT title slide that you can download from the website that needs to be filled out saved as JPEG and then uploaded into the film at the beginning. You want to leave it up for about three to five seconds and then you can either insert your PowerPoint slide or whichever way you're cutting into using a couple of different editing programs.

These are some example programs, both of them are free. The cap wing does leave a watermark though, so you do need to be mindful of that watermark. And is that going to position itself in a way? That's interrupting your screen? What's on your screen? And there's a variety of different guides that are available on the 3MT website.

On the Macquarie 3MT website, including step by step, editing videos, to show you how to set that up. So this is the title side, as I mentioned, you just fill that out, Save it as a JPEG because typically you cannot upload PowerPoint slides into most film editing software and just add that to the beginning.

So you might have to shift your video across a little bit and then add that slide in. You will need to create a Vimeo link which means you need to create an account. The free account is a little bit tricky if they hide it sometimes. And there is like a tiny little link saying, go to free account, the free account is perfectly fine for this particular exercise.

So make sure you don't pay please, You need to upload your video, give it a title, and then you would send those the URL to whoever's coordinating. That particular round. It may be your faculty liaison, it may be your department director. Okay. So I yep. Can't tell you who who to send it to exactly.

So you'll need to do a bit of paying attention to emails as they come through. They're promoting it otherwise, reaching out to perhaps either the faculty liaison or department department, / school director,

All right, so these are some key dates. These are the faculty heat dates. Although I'm not a hundred percent sure if this is video submission, or if this is when they're going to show them. So some faculties will be having a watch party. So, everyone will come to the room and they'll play this.

The And they'll play the, the videos live. So the video submission date, might actually be a couple of days before what we've got up here because they'll need time to assemble all the videos together will try and get you the most accurate information out as soon as possible. Yep.

Yes. Yeah, so the question was about whether or not your department or school is doing live versus virtual, you really do need to check with your department or school director. They're the ones that will be making those decisions or at least in conjunction with the rest of their department.

So, last year, I know, natural sciences did a live heat and then changed to virtual but I don't know if they're doing it this year. I haven't heard from any of the others. I know. There's a couple. Yes, I apologise, I'm not sure what any of faculty of arts or business schools are doing.

I know FMHS, it's mostly virtual. Now, There's a couple of departments that are still deciding if they're going to do live. And then for the sciences, I believe computing will be doing virtual natural sciences. I think they haven't made a decision yet and then the other departments. I'm not sure.

Yep, Some of the departments, it also depends on you know participation. So we very really encourage a one to participate so we can have departmental heat. But if there's not enough participants then there's a good chance that they'll just send you on to the faculty heat. Okay, We've had some issues in FNHS because we were told everything was going to be live and then the day after I announced it and booked the rooms for the Department of Faculty their motivation to So Megan was in a meeting.

The other day we were arguing over what we should do. So keep, Yep. So, those turnaround, like the dates between each submissions, you do like a week apart a way expected to rerecord each time. So it's a kind of, like, for that week. You now have to redo it.

It's a great question. So asking, if we need to rerecord between heat, you do not have to. Okay, you can resubmit. So if you get, if you are one of the top three you win your departmental school heat and they nominate you to the next level. You have the option.

So you are welcome to rerecord if you want to and you may get feedback from the judges that you may want to incorporate into your presentation. However, you're not under obligation So you can just resend the same link and just leave it as is. If you're happy with how your presentation went, Obviously, if your department is doing in person heat, then you need to go off and record your 3MT for the For the next rounds.

But other than that, no, you don't have to change it. And I do recommend that you do if you are doing in person one and you do win, do take the time to record it because I know that Ruby was a bit hesitant about that last time and then she ended up winning the Macquarie final.

Yep. Yeah So I mean if you if we were doing this in person the way we normally would do it again, there would still be about a week and a bit between the different heats and so we would there would be opportunity if you wanted to tweak your presentation.

You probably don't want to go too crazy different unless the feedback was well, there's very unlikely that you would have been picked to win if the feedback was going to be quite excessive in changing. But yeah you do have that opportunity, Okay, you can get feedback and we can talk about this little in a minute.

But that's it that I have on the 3MT fresh about just so you need help is clearly exactly treating this or what about five second or three seconds earlier. So you can finish before three minutes. That's not a problem. You could do it in two minutes, although if you do it in two minutes, there's a good chance that you have not demonstrated all the different things that the judges are looking for.

So they might feel, it's a bit lacking. So you probably want to aim actually, for the two minute, 45 to 55 points to, make sure that you're definitely fitting in that time slot. Yeah, yeah. So you can definitely go under but there's no no 100 like 10% over the three minutes.

Yep. Waiting for a slide. No, no animation at all on the slide know. Yeah, no acting, no poems, no songs.

No props, No props. No costumes. You have to maybe clear that it's naturally.

Yep. To just I don't is and my first year. So, I don't have any.

Off without consider. Yeah. So if you're in the earlier stages, you probably will have a heavier emphasis on the background and what you're planning to do and what you expect still putting in that significance. So, how you expect that's going to change whatever it is, you're trying to change again though.

Naturally, when you compare against someone who already has the data to show that they've made that change, you may not compete as well, but I really recommend that you start working on this and you can so with a 3MT you can enter as many times in your candidature, okay?

So you can do it every year if you'd like. And so if you start now start building up working out, what works especially things like the beginning. What's the hawk? How do you draw them in? And then you can start applying them? And then once you get to 30, you might have a great presentation, or you might even do well in your first year as well.

So, don't let that stop. You know, they won't scare all of us if you don't win. Yep, that's what we not as one of the results or if that's So you could talk about it but it would feed into the background. Yep outcomes that it was done from Nebraska.

Yes, that would be fine. This is about your research. It's one of the things as well is that you want to use the word. I as much as possible as well, When you're talking about what you're doing rather than we, which is often what we use, because this is about your PhD or yours.

Okay, we'll stuck there and move on to the next. Okay. Okay, did you guys hear that? So, if there's any amorous business school candidates here, Doesn't look like