

Information Sheet

What is the Big Pitch?

The Big Pitch is CGU's 3-Minute Thesis Competition. Participants are required to tailor presentations about their research, business projects, or art to a time limit of three minutes, a single static PowerPoint slide, and a non-specialist audience. Within these confines, graduate student competitors hone their abilities to translate their discipline-based work, and the intellectual community of the university learns about the projects being done across campus in an accessible way. Participation is open to all M.A. and Ph.D. students. Judging panels of faculty, staff, alumni, and community members evaluate presentations in preliminary rounds and the final event. All winners and finalists receive cash stipends.

Why Participate?

As a presenter, you develop academic, presentation, and research communication skills that give you a career advantage after graduation. You strengthen your ability to explain complex material concisely to a general audience. You also improve your ability to present engagingly to a large audience under time constraints. Finally, you are in the running for cash prizes and have the opportunity to share your work directly with the university! The **winner** receives **\$1000**, **2nd place** receives **\$500**, **3rd place** receives **\$250**, the **people's choice** receives **\$250**, and **all other finalists** receive **\$150**.

More broadly, The Big Pitch contributes to CGU's academic mission of creating new knowledge and preparing leaders with the purpose and skills to make the world a better place. This is true not only for competitors in the ways already mentioned but for all interested students through the open training program developed by the Academic Professional Development team.

Important Details

- This year the Big Pitch is entirely virtual!
- Submissions are in the form of prerecorded videos.
- Some editing is allowed, but videos cannot be marked down for recording or editing quality.
- Still 3 minutes and 1 slide.
- Different judging panels of staff, faculty, alumni, and community members for both rounds.
- **The 2020 Big Pitch Final: Friday, November 20th from 12-1p.m (livestream).**
- The Big Pitch Preliminary Round: Monday November 16th to Wednesday, November 18th.
- PowerPoint slide & Prerecorded video deadline: Thursday, November 12th at 11:59 p.m.
- **Final registration deadline: November 9th at 11:59 p.m.**
- Priority registration deadline for guaranteed participation: October 30th at 11:59 p.m.

To compete, attend, participate in trainings, or find out more, visit: www.cgu.edu/thebigpitch