

The Big Pitch 2025 Presentation Requirements

BACKGROUND

Students have three minutes to present a compelling presentation on work they are doing during graduate school at CGU. This competition is not an exercise in trivializing or ‘dumbing-down’ projects, but challenges students to consolidate their ideas so they can be presented concisely to a non-specialist audience. The Big Pitch welcomes students from all disciplines at any stage of degree progress—our format works for artist statements, business plans, and research in the humanities and sciences.

RULES

- The Big Pitch 2025 is **virtual**.
- Competitors will submit a PDF file of their PowerPoint slide(s) and a prerecorded video link.
- Competitors are responsible for posting their video to a personal YouTube account. Files sent in other formats will not be accepted.
- All videos will be posted on the Big Pitch website for Qualifying Round judging.
- A single static slide is permitted in the presentation (no slide transitions, animations or ‘movement’ of any description). This can be visible continuously, or ‘cut to’ (as many times as you like) for a maximum of 1 minute.
- A single title slide is also allowed (but not required).
- Presentations are considered to have begun when a presenter starts their pitch through speech (timing does not include a Big Pitch title slide—it begins when the competitor starts speaking, not necessarily the start of the video).
- The PowerPoint slide cannot be changed between rounds.
- **The presentation must be filmed: (1) horizontally; (2) on a plain or mostly plain background; (3) from a static position; and, (4) from a single camera angle.**
- **The 3 minutes of audio must be continuous—no sound edits or breaks.**
- **No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.**
- **No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.**
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

PEOPLE’S CHOICE

An important aspect of the competition is the People’s Choice prize. During the qualifying round, CGU affiliated viewers will be able to vote for their favorite pitch. During the livestreamed final event, the audience will be asked to vote on who they thought gave the most convincing presentation (based on their understanding of the criteria). The presentation with the most votes wins. A finalist can be the winner or runner-up and still receive the People’s Choice award.