

Flash Talks Guidelines

WHAT IS A FLASH TALK?

A flash talk is a very short presentation lasting only a few minutes in which you present a scientific concept or idea in a manner understandable to those outside your immediate field.

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR PRESENTATION

- A single, static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations or movement are allowed. The single slide upload must be a PDF file at highest resolution possible.
- The slide will be presented from the beginning of the talk
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video) or props are allowed
- The aspect ratio (ratio of width to height) should ideally be set to '16:9'
- Fonts should be sans-serif (e.g., Arial, Helvetica, etc.) with a minimum font size that should not be smaller than 18pt for in person presentation with screen projection in the conference room.
- Make appropriate use of white space to avoid crowding and unnecessary detail.

USEFUL ADVICE

- Make it relevant! Make your audience care about your research by showing how it makes an impact.
- Perfect the timing of your talk. Practice, practice, practice!
- Project your voice and command the space.

RULES OF PRESENTATION

- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum with NO Q&A. Exceeding the 3-minute time period will result in disqualification
- This time restriction will be strictly enforced by the room moderator. The clock begins to run as soon as the presenter begins speaking. The timekeeper will indicate when the presentation is within 30 seconds of the time limit. A buzzer will sound at the end of the 3-minute period signifying that the presentation has ended.
- Presentation order will be assigned ahead of time.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Research presentations will be judged by a panel of judges using the criteria listed below. The judging panel will be made up of faculty and other postdocs from a variety of disciplines across the university. Each judge scores competitors on a scale of 1 to 10 in each of the categories below.

- Communication: Did the presentation communicate the research effectively?
- Importance: Did the presentation communicate the innovation and/or significance of the research effectively?
- Engagement: Did the presentation make the audience want to know more?

The decision of the judging panel is final.

For more information, and to submit single PPT slides for flash talks, contact Faith Wenck by email at faithwenck179@tamu.edu