

Asia-Pacific Young Scientists Association



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# Asia-Pacific Young Scientists Association (AYSA) Three Minute Thesis Competition



## **Organizer**

**Asia-Pacific Forestry Education Coordination Mechanism (AP-FECM)**

**Asia Forest Research Center (AFRC), University of British Columbia (UBC)**



## **Sponsor**

**Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)**

**Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia (UBC)**

## About AYSA 3MT

Three Minute Thesis (3MT) is an academic competition that assists current graduate students with fostering effective presentation and communication skills. Participants have just three minutes to explain the breadth and significance of their research project to a non-specialist audience. 3MT originated in Queensland in 2008. Asia-Pacific Young Scientists Association (AYSA) hosted the first 3MT competition in 2022, attracting university students from 18 countries for registration. Students from 12 universities were selected to compete for the awards in the final stage. This competition received high praise from our partner universities and the students. AYSA aims to hold the 3MT competition as yearly event. This year, AYSA proposes that partner universities can first host the competition within their universities, and select top presenters before the final competition hosted by AYSA.

AYSA is originated by AP-FECM and UBC Forestry with the idea of accelerating scientific progress in forestry that requires focused training and the development of the best young minds. More information was provided in the link here.  
<https://apfecm.forestry.ubc.ca/aysa/>

## Theme

The competition focuses on graduate-level forestry students in the Asia-Pacific region. Students are all welcome to register and discuss broad topics of interest related to forest and forestry study.

Our given themes include:

- 1) Forest Resources Management
- 2) Biodiversity and Ecosystem
- 3) Bio-based materials/products, bioenergy, and wood-based products/materials

## Arrangement

**Deadline for registration and submission: October 31, 2023**

**Registration link:**

[https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_e4ZZZIQBYs5dXLw](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e4ZZZIQBYs5dXLw)

**Submission email: [apfecm.forestry@ubc.ca](mailto:apfecm.forestry@ubc.ca)**

After your registration, please send your 3-minute video and one PowerPoint slide to email [apfecm.forestry@ubc.ca](mailto:apfecm.forestry@ubc.ca). For the submission, please name your files in the given format: first name\_family name\_ the given theme.

Semi-finals (live): November 16, 2023 (tentative)

Finals (live): November 30, 2023 (tentative)

The final date for the live competition will be confirmed by emails.

# Prizes for AYSA 3MT

SEMI-FINAL	PRIZE
Top 5 advance	CAD 100 each

FINAL	PRIZES
First place	CAD 1,000
Runner up	CAD 600
3rd place	CAD 300

## Resources and samples for Participants

More information about 3MT: <https://3mt.grad.ubc.ca/>  
UBC 3MT examples: <https://3mt.grad.ubc.ca/participate/resources-for-participants/>  
AYSA 3MT, Finals-2022: <https://youtu.be/7cH2GPF6GyY>  
AYSA 3MT, Semi-Finals-2022: <https://youtu.be/IqSf5BdsPMM>

Join Us for the AYSA  
Three Minute Thesis  
Competition: An Exciting  
Opportunity to Showcase  
Your Research!

# Rules

- A **single, static PowerPoint slide** is permitted (no slide transitions, animations or ‘movement’ of any description, the slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration). **Images used in the slide must be your own, or you must have permission from the owner of the photo(s) and provide proper credit(s).**
- No additional electronic media** (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props** (e.g. laser pointers, costumes, laboratory equipment or musical instruments) are permitted.
- No notes allowed.** Presentations are to be memorized. \*for virtual presentations, do not read from notes.
- Presentations are limited to **3 minutes maximum**. Judges are recommended to deduct marks from presentations that exceed 3 minutes.
- Presentations are to be **spoken word** (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- Presentations must be **based on research directly related to the student’s current graduate program thesis**. Research performed for employment should not be present. Research completed as part of a prior degree should not be presented as current work.
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter **starts their presentation through movement or speech**.
- \*Video presentations should focus on the presenter in the centre of the screen, from about the waist up. The presenter and camera will not move during the presentation (i.e. you will remain seated or standing in one place for the full duration of the presentation). Hand gestures and body language are okay.
- \*The 3-minute audio must be continuous – no edits, breaks etc.
- \*Presentations should be recorded inside, with a **minimalist background** (i.e. a blank wall). Do not include any visuals complementing your presentation (the only visual allowed is your one 3MT slide).
- \*Presenters must agree to have their video streamed live to participate in the 3MT final.
- The decision of the adjudicating panel is final.

# Judging Criteria

## 1. Comprehension & Content:

- Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background to the research question being addressed and its significance?
- Did the presentation clearly describe the key results of the research including conclusions and outcomes?
- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
- Were the thesis topic, key results and research significance and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology and provide adequate background information to illustrate points?
- Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation – or did they elaborate for too long on one aspect or was the presentation rushed?

## 2. Engagement & Communication:

- Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
- Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize 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; maintain a steady pace, and have a confident stance?
- Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation – was it clear, legible, and concise?

