

Three minutes of research glory

- **20 top PhD students battle it out for Three-Minute Thesis honours at UNSW**
- **High-profile judging panel and People's Choice award**

Affordable cars for the developing world, a finger-prick blood test for cancer, biomaterials to replace bone and classroom diagnoses of ADHD are among the bright new ideas battling it out for the top three-minute thesis at a free public event at UNSW **this week** (18 September).

Twenty PhD students from across the University's faculties will have just three minutes to pitch their compelling research to a high-profile panel of judges for a cash prize and the honour of representing UNSW at the 3MT Trans-Tasman championships.

The annual contest is a showcase of some of UNSW's most exciting doctoral research and a public event not to be missed, says Professor **Laura Poole-Warren**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research Training) and Dean of Graduate Research.

"This festival of amazing ideas is open to the community and is a great way to find out about some of the high-quality research that occurs at UNSW," says Professor Poole-Warren.

"Where else can you hear 20 three-minute research snapshots across the creative arts, engineering, humanities, science, law, medicine, business and social sciences? This is even better than TED!"

Post-industrial city makeovers, new sensor technology to map fall risks for the elderly, and chlamydia immunisation of koalas are among the topics to be presented by faculty winners.

A mutant obesity-proof mouse will be pitted against novel wind turbine and rocket engine designs, and the 'digital artefacts' of modern society.

The winner will take home \$3,000 and go on to represent UNSW at the Trans-Tasman competition with \$5,000 up for grabs. Other prizes are \$1,500 for the runner-up; \$1,000 for the People's Choice award determined by the audience; and \$500 for the ASPIRE prize awarded by school students.

Presentations will be judged by award-winning ABC science journalist **Robyn Williams**, Fairfax's chief political correspondent **Mark Kenny**, prominent schizophrenia researcher Professor **Cyndi Shannon Weickert**, Professor **Martin Nakata**, director of UNSW's Nura Gili Centre for Indigenous Programs, and Dr **Johannes Luetz**, former UNSW 3MT ASPIRE prize winner.

What: Three-Minute Thesis Competition

When: 4.30-7.30pm, 18 September 2014 – free public event

Where: Leighton Hall, John Niland Scientia Building, Kensington campus

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