

Registration open for the "Present your thesis in 4 minutes" competition organised by the Fundació Catalana per a la Recerca i la Innovació

The Postgraduate and Doctoral School and the Scientific Communication Unit of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili are promoting this competition for doctoral students who would like the opportunity to explain their doctoral theses in no more than four minutes to a non - specialist public. The URV will hold an internal competition to select a candidate to represent the University at the "Present your thesis in 4 minutes" competition organised by the Fundació Catalana per a la Recerca i la Innovació (FCRi).

The internal URV competition will consist of two phases:

Proposal submission phase. All doctoral students who sign up will participate in an internal selection process to determine the six proposals that will go through to the local final. The proposals will be selected by a committee consisting of representatives from the Postgraduate and Doctoral School, the URV's research community and the Unit for the Communication of Science, ComCiència.

Final phase at the URV. The six chosen participants during the knock-out phase must explain their theses before a panel of judges designated by the Postgraduate and Doctoral School of the URV. This will take place on **Tuesday 5 May in Tarragona**. The individuals chosen will be informed of the exact time and place when they get through to this phase. The doctoral student who will represent the URV at the interuniversity final will be chosen during this phase.

In the selection process the URV will award the students responsible for the top three proposals from the internal phase will free registration onto the URV doctoral programme. If the prize winner must not pay the next academic year enrolment fee (because of finishing, having another enrolment grant...), it will be paid the amount corresponding to the enrolment fee for the aforementioned academic year. The person awarded first place will go through to the inter-university course, which will take place in Barcelona on **Thursday, 4 June** in the auditorium of the Movistar Centre. The FCRi competition allows for presentations to be given in Catalan, Spanish or English in a maximum of 4 minutes. Below you can find the full competition rules:

CONDITIONS:

The "Present your thesis in 4 minutes" competition, the Fundació Catalana per a la Recerca i la Innovació (FCRi) and the Universitat Rovira i Virgili.

1. General Information

The 12 universities of Catalonia and the FCRi, with the support of the Catalan Government, are organising the "Present your thesis in 4 minutes" competition. The competition is aimed at doctoral students from any scientific discipline who, if they enter, will have to explain their theses in simple and easily understood language to a non-specialist audience.

2. Conditions of participation

Participants must explain their theses in no more than 4 minutes to an audience consisting of members of the general public. They must register for the first phase by sending the registration form to comciencia@urv.cat **between 18 February 2020 at 11:00 and 24 March 2020 at 23:59.**

All doctoral students selected by an internal committee (maximum six people) will be invited to participate in the final at the URV, which will be held on **Tuesday, 5 May**. Prior to this they will be offered a day's joint training. The selected students will be directly informed of the time and place. In this phase, the participants must explain their doctoral thesis to the judges, in accordance with the competition criteria. The authors of the three most highly rated proposals will be awarded free registration onto the URV's doctoral programme or, if the prize winner must not pay the next academic year enrolment fee (because of finishing, having another enrolment grant...), it will be paid the amount corresponding to the enrolment fee for the aforementioned academic year. The overall winner will go through to the "Present your thesis in 4 minutes" competition, which is organised by the Catalan Research Foundation and the Catalan Universities. The students in second and third place will be placed in reserve in case the first student is unable to attend the inter-university final.

The third phase will be the interuniversity final in Barcelona on **4 June 2020**, the exact time and date being confirmed in due course.

3. Competition requirements

To participate, candidates must:

- Be fully registered, with registration fees paid, for the second year of their doctoral degree programmes.

- Have the approval of their thesis supervisor when they apply to participate in the competition.
- Not have defended their thesis before applying for the competition at their university.
- Agree to attend in person on the day of the competition.
- Agree to omit any confidential data or information during their presentations. The URV and the FCRi will not be responsible for any candidate's failure to comply with these requirements.

4. Registration

- Each participant must complete the online registration form and send it along with their video to comciencia@urv.cat **between 18 February 2020 at 11:00 and 24 March 2020 at 23:59.**

5. Presentation rules:

- Duration - maximum of 4 minutes. (The presentation will be considered to have started and the clock will therefore be running as soon as the candidate begins to speak).
- Presentations may only be given in Catalan, Spanish or English.
- Only two presentation slides may be shown.
- Additional material is allowed but should be kept to a minimum.
- The video must not include sound effects, music, musical instruments, costumes, etc.
- Candidates may not refer to handheld notes.
- A short or humorous quote may be used.
- The finalists must also agree to present their thesis in 4 minutes (away from the competition) at the 2020 Research Night, the date of which will be confirmed as soon as possible.

6. Final phase

Candidates have four minutes in which to give their presentations. Any candidate who exceeds this time limit will be automatically eliminated. The jury will make their decision at the end of the session and inform the FCRi.

Interuniversity final

- This will be a single, public session. In 2018 it will be held in the city of Barcelona. In subsequent years, it will be held in other locations throughout the territory on a rotating basis.

- Approximate audience capacity: 200 people
- Date: 4 June 2020 (afternoon).
- Intended audience: Bachelor's, master's and doctoral students, students in upper secondary education or vocational training, the general public.
- One candidate per university will be permitted.
- Presentations given in alphabetical order.
- The FCRi will appoint the jury
- Three prize categories (first, second and public)

7. Interuniversity final prizes

- 1st prize: €3,000
- 2nd prize: €2,000
- Public: €1,000

8. Legal regulations

8.1. General

Candidates give their permission for their work to be disseminated via any medium related to the Universitat Rovira i Virgili. Candidates agree to abide by the competition conditions and to accept the solutions proposed by the organisation for any problems that are not covered by these conditions in accordance with the criteria they consider most appropriate. Notifications and reminders relating to the competition will be sent out via the email address **comciencia@urv.cat**. The competition organisers will communicate with candidates via the email addresses given during registration.

8.2. Presentation:

Candidates have sole responsibility for the content of the videos they submit to the competition and for ensuring they have the necessary permission for any images they may use during the competition. The organisers reserve the right to exclude from the competition any videos that do not comply with the requirements, that may cause offence due to their content or any other reason or that the organisers consider may cause harm.

8.3. Dissemination and intellectual property rights

Simply by submitting their work, individuals interested in participating in this competition authorise the URV to use, exploit and disseminate their work in promotional activities and in any initiatives adopted by the UCC+ and the Postgraduate and Doctoral School to promote research and scientific culture. If the organisers wish to use the works submitted outside of these ambits, they must first obtain the authorisation of the author. The organisers reserve the right to publish the full names of the winners and to use their image in activities relating to the prize and/or to promote or publicise the competition without the winners having any right to payment.

8.4. Agreement to the conditions and applicable regulations:

By participating in this competition, candidates fully accept these conditions. Any doubts regarding the interpretation of these conditions or any incident that may arise during the entire period of the competition will be resolved by the jury, whose decision will be final.

Any aspect that is not expressly covered by these conditions will be governed by the provisions of Law 26/2010, of 3 August, on the legal and procedural regime of the public administrations of Catalonia, and Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the common administrative procedure of the public administrations.

In case of disagreement between the Catalan and English competition rules, the Catalan call shall prevail over the English translation.

8.5. Protection of personal data:

In accordance with Organic Law 15/1999, of 13 December, on the protection of personal data, the candidates' data will be stored in a file for purposes relating to the competition. Candidates can exercise their right to access, rectify, remove or oppose the handling of their data by sending an email to comciencia@urv.cat.

8.6. Protection of personal data

Basic information on data protection	
Institution responsible	Universitat Rovira i Virgili
Purpose	Organization of the "Present your thesis in 4 minutes?" competition
Legal basis	Consent
Recipients	The data are not ceded to any third parties
Rights	To access, rectify and remove your data, to ask for them to be moved, to oppose their handling and to request their limitation
Additional information	www.urv.cat/legal/privacitat

Any queries or doubts regarding the competition or these conditions may be sent by email to comciencia@urv.cat or by calling 977 297 011 or 977 558 006.