

Universitat Internacional de Catalunya
Doctoral School

Call for “Present your thesis in 4 minutes” Contest (7th edition)

The **Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation (FCRI)** is organising an inter-university competition aimed at doctoral students of any discipline. The challenge is to explain their research in a maximum of four minutes in a simple and easily understandable language for the general public.

This competition will consist of two phases. In the first phase, each university convenes an internal heat of its own with the aim of selecting the best candidate to represent the university. In the second phase, the FCRI will organise the final public contest between all universities in Catalonia. As a novelty of the 7th edition of the competition, the Final will take place on June 27 in the city of Tarragona, and the Special Mention is maintained, this time with the name "Special Mention Asunción Catalan i Poch" for the motivation and promotion of the Catalan language.

In accordance with the rules of the competition organised by the FCRI, **the Doctoral School of the Universitat Internacional de Catalunya hereby opens the call for entries in the internal competition: *Present your thesis in 4 minutes.***

1. PARTICIPANTS

All students of doctoral programmes who meet the following conditions can participate:

- a. Be at least a second year doctoral student and have an active and paid registration.
- b. Have not as yet defended their thesis.
- c. Have agreed to participate in person in the final of the contest organised by FCRI in June in Tarragona.
- d. Have not participated in previous editions.

Registration requirements

- Registration for the competition is completed through the form.
- Presentation of the acceptance and approval of the director or thesis director.
- Commitment from the doctoral student to be present on the day of the contest; remote participation is not permitted.
- Commitment from the doctoral student to not divulge any data or confidential information regarding the research during the public presentation. Neither UIC Barcelona nor the FCRI shall be liable in the event of non-compliance by the participants.

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3. UNIVERSITY HEATS: INTERNAL UIC BARCELONA CONTEST

The rules of the contest are as follows:

1. It will be held in a single session open to the public.
2. The participants will conduct their presentations in alphabetical order.
3. The following presentation rules must be taken into account:
 - Maximum duration of four minutes. Whoever exceeds this time will be automatically eliminated.
 - A **maximum of two static slides** can be projected.
 - **No video, no sound, no musical instruments, no costumes**, etc., are permitted.
 - Some accompanying material is allowed. A minimal amount is recommended.
 - Only presentations in Catalan, Spanish or English are allowed.
 - Once the participant speaks, the presentation is considered to have started.
 - Notes or hand-held paper are not recommended.
 - A short or humorous quote can be used.

4. JURY AND CONTEST EVALUATION

The jury will be made up of three UIC Barcelona lecturers chosen by the Doctoral School Steering Committee. Each member of the jury will issue an individual assessment of the contestant according to FCRI criteria which will score the participant from 1 (minimum) to 5 (maximum).

I. Content and comprehension

- The presentation has provided an understanding of the background and the importance of the research being addressed.
- The presentation has clearly described the key results of the research, including conclusions and results.
- The presentation has followed a clear and logical sequence.
- The topic of the thesis, the key results and significance, as well as the results of the research have been adequately explained to a non-specialist public.

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- The participant has avoided scientific jargon, explained terminology and provided adequate background information to illustrate points.
- The participant has spent the appropriate time on each element of their presentation, without any specific aspect being dealt with for too long a period of time. The presentation has been carried out at an appropriate speed.

II. Commitment and communication

- The participant has not trivialised or generalised their research too much.
- The participant has conveyed enthusiasm for their research.
- The participant has captured and maintained the attention of the audience.
- The participant has displayed a stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; they have shown confidence and maintained a constant rhythm.
- The PowerPoint slide is clear, legible and concise and has provided a positive addition to the presentation.

5. CONTEST WINNER

The participant with the highest score will be named the winner of the competition. In the event of a tie, the jury will deliberate and designate the winner. The jury's decision will take effect at the end of the session and the FCRI will be informed of which candidate will represent UIC Barcelona in the final.

7. Assumpció Català i Poch SPECIAL MENTION for the promotion and encouragement of the Catalan language

Within the framework of the "Strengthening Plan for the Catalan language in the university and research system of Catalonia", a special mention has been created for to promote Catalan, for which only the theses presented in Catalan can compete. The judges will value outstanding contributions to the promotion of scientific culture in our country, through the dissemination of informative content in the Catalan language aimed at all citizenship

6. PRIZES: UIC Barcelona Internal phase

The **Doctoral School** will award three prizes:

- First prize: free administrative fees for thesis deposit and reading fees
- Second prize: institutional gift
- Audience prize: institutional gift



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- Thesis in Catalan Prize **Only for theses presented in Catalan.*

7. PRIZES: FCRi final phase

The FCRi will award three If you win the first prize of the internal phase, you will participate in the final phase of the competition, and therefore you will be eligible to obtain the prizes awarded by the FCRi:

- First: €3,000 (jury)
- Second: €2,000 (jury)
- Audience: €1,000 (audience)
- Special Mention Assumpció Catalan i Poch for the motivation and promotion of the Catalan language: €1,000 (Strengthening Plan for the Catalan language) **Only for theses presented in Catalan.*

** In the case that one of the prizes voted by the jury and that of the audience coincide, the prize with the greatest economic value will be awarded to the contestant, and the audience prize will be awarded to the next most voted finalist.*

FCRi CALL: <https://tesi4minuts.fundaciorecerca.cat/index.html>