

## Public Speaking Competition

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Ron and Jane Graham School of Professional Development

### **Public Speaking Competition**

Competition Date: **March 7, 2024**, 5:30 pm Health Sciences 1150

Submit the application form, to the Graham School at [graham.school@usask.ca](mailto:graham.school@usask.ca)

Application Due: **Feb 26, 2024 at 4 pm.**

## COMPETITION GUIDELINES

### Competitor Requirements:

The Graham School of Professional Development Public Speaking Competition is open to any student registered in an undergraduate program at the University of Saskatchewan who are registered or have completed RCM 200 or RCM 400 level courses. Graham School of Professional Development will accept all applications, but only **6 (six)** people will be chosen to compete. Competitors will be chosen based on the quality of their speech strategy reports and their RCM 200/300/401 instructor's recommendation.

- A \$1,000 prize will be awarded to the first place winner
- The winner's name will be engraved on a trophy, which will reside in the Graham School.

### Speaker Requirements:

- Must wear business attire for the competition

### Speech Requirements

- Must be developed specifically for the public speaking contest: speeches developed for any other RCM class are not eligible
- Must be persuasive in nature, either "persuasion to action" or "persuasion to attitude"
- May address a topic of your choice
- Must have an explicit and clearly identifiable purpose
- Must provide an explicit structure with survey, clear signposts, and concluding summation
- Must be delivered **extemporaneously** from the card provided
- Should be **five** minutes in length, give or take 10 seconds

### Evaluation Criteria

Your speech will be assessed in accordance with the standards employed in RCM 200/300 and RCM 401 by a panel of Graham School faculty members, whose decision will be final. The following

criteria will apply:

- Content – appropriateness, positioning, quality
- Structure – clarity, coherence
- Audience adaptation – positioning, appropriateness, relation
- Ethos – speaker credibility, command of the topic
- Logos – organization, supporting information, quality of argument
- Pathos – audience engagement, emotional appeals, common ground
- Delivery – polish, self-possession, command of self and situation, poise, vocal quality

# Graham School Public Speaking Competition

*Sponsored by the Ron & Jane Graham School of Professional Development*

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**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Feb 26, 2024**

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Name:

E-mail:

Name of your RCM 200/300 or RCM 400 level course instructor:

Your college and discipline or major:

Purpose of proposed speech (3x5 card outline must be attached):

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I have read and agree to abide by the requirements of competition for the Graham School of Professional Development Public Speaking Contest. I recognize and agree that the decision of the judges is final.

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X

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Signature

Name

## Persuasive Speech Strategy Report

**DUE: February 26, 2024**

**Please write in complete sentences and answer each question fully. The six competitors will be selected based on the quality of this report and on your RCM 200 instructor's recommendation.**

1. Briefly outline your public speaking experience.
2. What action will you persuade the audience to take, or what belief or attitude will you persuade the audience to adopt, as a result of hearing your speech? (ie. I want my audience to \_\_\_\_\_ *insert verb*, or I want my audience to believe that \_\_\_\_\_).
3. What is the rhetorical exigence (or problem) to which your speech responds?
4. Why should your audience care about the exigence? How is it an exigence in their lives? "What's in it for them?"
5. Which values, beliefs, and experiences of the audience will your speech need to acknowledge for you to build relation or create common ground with the audience?
6. What constraints will you face? How might your audience resist you?
7. What specific ethos, logos, and pathos appeals will you use to engage and persuade your audience and to overcome the constraints you identified in the previous question? Comment separately on each mode of appeal. What enabling strategy, if any, will you use to make it easier for the audience to act on your proposal or to adopt your belief?
8. What is your own interest in or commitment to this topic?
9. What research do you need to do to have sufficient evidence to support your claims? Cite any sources you have consulted or will use.
10. Attach a brief, or preliminary, outline of your speech.