2015 Men and Women of Color Summit
Three Minute Oratory Challenge
August 28, 2015

What is the Three Minute Oratory Challenge?
The Three Minute Oratory Challenge is designed to allow undergraduate students an opportunity to express their thoughts about minority females and males in postsecondary education. The Challenge creates an open forum for students to speak within three minutes while focusing on a specific theme. The experience will help participants develop verbal communication skills and offer observers some insight toward understanding minority students and their needs. The Challenge will be judged by a select panel of professionals with a wide range of expertise. We will be documenting the proceedings by video recording and/or taking photographs. Any content that is captured may be used for promotional purposes or as the basis for future study.

Why should students participate?
As a part of the Men and Women of Color Summit, the Three Minute Oratory Challenge creates an opportunity for voices to be heard. Messages of success and struggle have value and should be shared. The Challenge opens a door to those who otherwise may remain silent. $750, $500, and $250 prizes will be awarded to the top three orators. The first place winner will have the opportunity to share his/her speech with attendees at the 2015 Men and Women of Color Summit.

Who should participate?
The Challenge is open to all undergraduate students, regardless of the institution you attend. Those who are planning to attend the MSU Men and Women of Color Summit or have an interest in issues related to female and male minority students should definitely consider participating.

When will the Challenge take place?
The Challenge will take place on Friday, August 28, 2015 at The Mill in Starkville, MS as part of the 2015 Men and Women of Color Summit. A detailed schedule will be released prior to the date of the competition.

Rules/Criteria
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).
- The decision of the judging panel is final.
- Competitors must declare which theme he or she is speaking to. The themes are:
  - Self-Efficacy
  - Self Esteem
  - Keys to academic success
  - The plight of female minority students
  - The plight of male minority students
- Presentations will be judged on:
  - Delivery (Articulation, vocal variety, gestures)
  - Effectiveness (Clear purpose, ability to promote your position)
  - Content (Substance, use of data, strength of opinion)
  - Appearance (Attire, grooming)