



InSPiR2eS Global Pitching Research Competition 2025 (IGPRC2025) at Kaunas University of Technology

General Information & Timelines

We invite doctoral students and young researchers from Lithuanian academic institutions who received the doctoral degree not later than 5 years ago to participate in a pitching competition at KTU. **The best-written pitches will be selected and earn the right to advance through the semi-final of the global pitch competition (IGPRC2025).** The winners of the final IGPRC2025 competition will share approximately **AUD20,000 monetary prize!**

Core Task

The core task of this competition is to produce a written 1,000-word novel research pitch using the “pitching research” framework, PRF (see the skeleton PRF tool on the following page). This tool provides a simple, methodical device to communicate ... confidently/succinctly ... all the essential elements of a new research proposal to an academic expert e.g., to your thesis supervisor. For a detailed explanation of the PRF, see the latest version of the SSRN paper “[Pitching Research](#)” [[Faff \(2024\)](#)].

Eligibility to participate

- The competition is open to PhD students and young researchers from Lithuanian academic institutions who received the doctoral degree not later than 5 years ago, from any discipline.

Competition Prizes and Awards

The KTU winners of the best-written pitches will go to the semi-final.

*Semi-final and final will take place remotely and will be organized by prof. Robert Faff (University of Queensland, Australia).

The following potential prizes await the ultimate winners of *the global IGPRC2025*:

The overall IGPRC2025 winner receives AUD5,000, second receives AUD2,000, and the remaining grand finalists receive AUD1,000 each. Additional smaller cash prizes are available for other categories of high achievement. Further, all those making the semi-final and grand final rounds will receive an official certificate recognising their achievement. The total prize pool is approximately AUD20,000.

Important Dates & Timeline

- **Until 3 October 2025:** registration to IGPRC pitch competition at KTU (registration link: <https://forms.office.com/e/Ut2GcdMn00>)
- **9 October 2025:** pitching seminar given by prof. Robert Faff to pitch competition participants (seminar will take place at KTU).
- **10 October 2025:** KTU pitching competition and announcement of winners who will participate in the semi-final of IGPRC2025 (competition will take place at KTU).

Web Resources

- SSRN paper:

Faff, Robert W., InSPiR2eS Global Pitching Research Competition 2024 (IGPRC2024) ... What, Why, How, Who, and When? (February 10, 2024). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4722247>

- **Accompanying PPT slides:** <https://bit.ly/3W0zWs5>

IGPRC Exemplars ... Learn from Past Overall IGPRC Winners!

Year	Winner	Written version link	Video link
2024	Eglė Butkevičiūtė (Lithuania, KTU)	https://bit.ly/3EytIJj	https://bit.ly/3BQJZZ5
2023	Josh Nguyen (Australia)	https://bit.ly/3w1ef0f	https://bit.ly/4blmKDC
2022	Vu Nguyen Manh Hoai (Vietnam)	https://bit.ly/4hzArl4	https://bit.ly/3Z9QxaT

Further Enquiries

Contact assoc. prof. Neringa Gerulaitienė (neringa.gerulaitiene@ktu.lt)

IGPRC2025 Co-organizers at KTU



Robert Faff, FASSA, is Emeritus Professor at the University of Queensland. He has an international reputation in empirical finance research: securing 14 Australian Research Council grants (with total funding exceeding AUD4 million); 360+ refereed journal publications – 46 x A* (ABDC); career citations 23,000+ (Google Scholar); with a h-index of 74. His particular passion is nurturing the career trajectories of early career researchers. Robert has supervised almost 50 PhD students to successful completion and examined more than 50 PhD dissertations.

Building on a 40-year academic career, his signature focus is “[Pitching Research](#)”, with worldwide penetration signalled by: (a) 27,000+ SSRN downloads; (b) 400+ pitching talks/events; (c) at 37 Australian universities; and (d) spanning 54 different countries.

Further, he is the Founder & President of the [InSPiR2eS research network](#), a globally-facing research network primarily aimed at research training and capacity building, resting on a foundation theme of responsible science. In addition, Robert is Creator & Chief Scientist of the [InSPiR2eS Centre for Responsible Science](#) (IC4RS).



Neringa Gerulaitienė is an associate professor in management at Kaunas University of Technology. Neringa is a country node leader of a global research network “InSPiR2eS” in Lithuania. She organizes InSPiR2eS Global Pitching Research Competitions at KTU.

Neringa’s main research interests are in family business, innovation, healthcare management, and organizational resilience. Neringa has more than ten years of experience working on 7 national and 5 international research and studies projects. She has also actively participated at more than 20 international conferences such as the British Academy of Management (BAM), Strategic Management Society (SMS), and others; and published papers in high-level journals such as *Technovation*, *Baltic Journal of Management*. Neringa has received several awards, including the most active young researcher at KTU in 2023; researcher of the year at KTU School of Economics and Business in 2021; the most active PhD student at KTU in 2017; and academic achievements by the Research Council of Lithuania in 2018 and 2014. Moreover, since 2009, Neringa has developed her academic competencies at various international universities, including the Haas Business School, UC Berkeley, USA (July 2019 and June 2018); Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain (February 2022); ESADE Ramon Llull University, Spain (2017); and St. Gallen University, Switzerland (2020).

Faff's (2024) Pitching Research Framework Tool

FOUR	Four Big Picture Anchors
(A) Working Title	
(B) Basic Research Question	
(C) Key paper(s)	
(D) Motivation/Puzzle	
THREE	Three essential Building Blocks
(E) Idea?	
(F) Data?	
(G) Tools?	
TWO	Two key questions
(H) What's New?	
(I) So What?	
ONE	One bottom line
(J) Contribution?	
(K) Other Considerations	