Defense Scoring Protocol

**Step**

**1**

Gather evidence

while watching the student’s performance.

* Think collection, not judgment.
* Look for evidence that corresponds to criteria in the rubric. **Use a tool for this**, either the rubric itself, or a form that maps to the rubric.
* Use the Q&A to elicit evidence you don’t think you have.

**Step**

**2**

Score

the student defense with the rubric.

* Finish scoring silently. Hold off on dicsussion.
* Always try to match a given score or circled rubric indicator with a noted piece of evidence from the student presentation.

**Step**

**3**

Compare

the panel’s scores.

* One rubric dimension at a time, each panelist states (or hand signals) the score that he or she gave various aspects of the student presentation.
* Don’t discuss. Just take inventory of the scores.
* Note where there is relative agreement and disagreement.

**Step**

**4**

**Calibrate**
on areas of disagreement.

* Panelists quickly speak to the score they gave, citing evidence in the student presentation that supports the judgment.
* After hearing all viewpoints, see who is willing to move his or her stake.
* Hold off on discussing the final judgment (pass or resubmit); focus on the discrete parts of the rubric.

**Step**

**5**

Decide

whether the students passes or should resubmit.

* Now zoom out from the rubric and consider whether the student has met the standards of your defense, or needs to make improvement and try again.
* Try to reach consensus. If you can’t, then vote.

**Step**

**6**

Plan

your feedback.

* Establish a structure for providing feedback to the student. For example, “Wows and wonders.”
* Prioritize what to report.
* Share the duties.