THREE quick-thinking Brisbane Girls Grammar School students have outwitted their opposition to win a major debating championship late last month.

It was the first time a girls' school had won the the University of Queensland Vice Chancellor’s Schools Debating Championship.

The winning trio featured year 11 students Lucy Wark and Rebecca Conrick alongside Year 10’s Manuri Gunawardena.

They won their way through with a series of short preparation debates before taking on the boys from Brisbane Grammar School in the final.

Lucy Wark was also awarded the Championship Speaker of the Tournament Award and Rebecca Conrick came in as runner-up.

With only 30 minutes to prepare their debate, the girls argued that Australia should oppose the death penalty.

They took out the top gong following a unanimous decision from the five adjudicators.

School debating co-ordinator and teacher Anne Byrne said having a team of girls win was “gratifying”

“It was gratifying to see the girls do so well after all their hard work this season,” Mrs Byrne said.

“We have competed regularly in this competition but it has been dominated by the boys schools until now.”