

CU Graphic designer honored

By Rashmi Thapaliya
A & E Editor

Graphic Designer Melanie Barfield was rewarded with an Excellence Award during the annual Oklahoma College Public Relations Association (OCPRA) summer conference held in Ardmore.

Barfield, a Cameron University graduate and a staff member in the Office of Public Affairs earned second place honors in the Special Publication category. She was awarded for the 2010 Oklahoma Research Day booklet.



Photo Courtesy of Melanie Barfield

Graphic Designer:

Graphic Designer Melanie Barfield was awarded with an Excellence award during the annual OCPRA summer conference.

"It is always a good surprise to win an award," Barfield said. "An award makes you feel that you are doing something right. It also looks good in your resume."

The booklet included the names of people who participated in the research day. The 60-page booklet took Barfield about two weeks to write with different categories and the names of the participants under each category.

"The booklet was well organized and user friendly," Barfield said. "It was not very dynamic but it was easy to read."

Barfield graduated from CU with a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts with a concentration in Graphic Design in 2005. Her first job after graduation was in the Print Center at Office Depot.

"The job was not a real graphic designer job but it taught me project management and time management," Barfield said.

Her second job was at Color Graphics where she worked as a graphic designer for a year before gaining employment in the Office of Public Affairs at Cameron in 2007. Barfield's duties as a graphic designer for CU include designing advertising materials for CU. She also designs posters for events, brochures, billboards, invitations, newspaper advertisements, T-shirt designs, and others.

"It feels great to be an

employee at Cameron," Barfield said. "I enjoyed being a student of Cameron and I enjoy working here as well. Working here is a great experience for me and people who I work with are amazing."

Barfield said that she would continue to participate in the competition next year.

"We enter in different competitions every year," Barfield said.

"We participate in different categories and it is always fun to see what gets picked up."

OCPRA is comprised of public relations professionals from the state's public and private colleges and universities. The organization endeavors to increase the professional skills of its members, as well as promote higher education.

Colleges and universities across Oklahoma entered more than 500 projects in 30 multifaceted categories. The categories included writing, graphic design, marketing, audio, video and multimedia.

Barfield said that graphic design is fun if you are a

creative person.

"It is fun and challenging at the same time," Barfield said. "You should be fast and creative while trying to get the best result and meeting deadlines."

Barfield said that she would like to earn her master's degree in Graphic Design in the future and teach at the college level.

"It will be some time before I start my master's degree," Barfield said. "Till then I will keep on working and getting more experience."



Graphic Courtesy of Melanie Barfield

The Winner Booklet: Graphic Designer Barfield was awarded for the 2010 Oklahoma Research Day Booklet. The booklet included the names of people who participated in the research day.

Fall semester kicks off with foam dance party

By Rashmi Thapaliya
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Foam. Dance. Fun. The foam dance party was held in the Fine Arts Courtyard on Sept. 1. The event is organized by PAC and is the most popular PAC activity.

About 1500 students participated in the foam dance party this year, which started at 9 p.m. and concluded at midnight.

Student IDs were scanned to ensure that guests were enrolled during the fall semester. Each student with a valid Cameron ID was allowed to bring one guest.

Melissa Flores, PAC co-chair and a senior majoring in Psychology, said that the foam dance party was more organized this year.

"Last year, there was no scanning system," Flores said. "This year student IDs were checked at the gate and each student was allowed to bring two guests."

Flores said that the purpose of one guest per student with a student ID was to create a safer environment for students.

The participants danced to the beats of different genre of music played by the DJ. The music featured during the party included pop, hip-hop, R&B, techno and others.

Flores said that volunteers contributed to make the event a success.

"We had volunteers in a concession stand where water and candies were

served," Flores said. "We also had volunteers helping at the gates, checking bathrooms, and making sure everything was going well."

Flores said that events like the foam dance party helps CU students socialize with each other and have fun at the same time. She said that

PAC advertised for the event by posting flyers around the campus, putting it in the event calendar, writing in chalk

around the campus, and through words of mouth.

"We want the newcomers to think that Cameron is a fun place to be and where they have various activities they can participate in and make friends."

The weather was perfect for this year's foam dance party. The water sprinklers and foam helped the dancers cool off while dancing in the hot weather.



Photo by Kelsey Carter

Everybody on the dance floor: Students danced to the beats of music during the foam dance party held on Thursday, Sept. 1. About 1500 students attended the event.



Photo by Kelsey Carter

A sudsy heaven: Students are tight and packed together as they enjoy the party. The foam dance takes place every fall and is one of the biggest PAC events of the year.

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