

THEBATT.COM



(Left) Dominique Christina and (right) Denice Frohman perform slam poetry pieces Tuesday night at an event in Rudder Theater.



Shelby Knowles — THE BATTALION

Asit Biswas, the clerk who was ticketed for selling alcohol to a minor last month, was able to pay off his fine with money raised by students and friends.

SUMMIT CONTINUED

of the biggest inspirations for those of us that work here at the institute and those working in international agriculture around the world has been Dr. Borlaug himself," Murano said. "The trigger that he has been for all of us working in international development in term of what it means to be a leader, what it means to get things done and pursuing your goals relentlessly, basically action. 'Do more talk less' is what he would say."

Murano said that the traits exhibited by Borlaug that made him a great leader are certainly imitable as long as people are moved by what they do.

"His story is certainly simple. He wasn't Superman. He was a regular person like the rest of us. He would go to these countries and see the abject poverty and malnutrition, he knew as an agricultural researcher could be fixed," Murano said.

Murano said she hopes that her address will help people to think about how to look within themselves to find ideas and inspiration, to continue to be leaders.

"Certainly a better understanding of the impact one person can make, especially in agriculture. That one person can make a difference when they follow these things," Murano said.

The Texas A&M University Hispanic Network was established in 2006 with the goal of increasing minority enrollment and hearing the concerns of Hispanic Aggies. The Network has many chapters across the

nation that works with the university to increase diversity on campus.

"We work with the university system almost directly. The summit is the yearly event where we all gather," said Hispanic Network President Perfecto Solis. "There's a lot of great work that Hispanic network does... It's a lot of community outreach and getting the word out about Texas A&M."

Included in the community outreach are programs like "Phone-a-Fish," in which the network will call families of students who have been accepted to the university but haven't accepted admission. Solis said this allows them to form a connection with the student and the families.

"We'll call the families and answer any questions they might have," Solis said. "We talk about the Spirit of Aggieland, we answer questions that the kids might have. We form that connection associated with Texas A&M and the Aggie Spirit."

Solis said the goal is to both educate and inspire participants by highlighting the work of a select group of Hispanics.

"It's informational, and its also intended to be inspirational," Solis said. "A lot of the awards are going to be given to very special people who have done very special things. It's meant to refocus us on what the next year is. It's an opportunity for breakout meetings. We're doing the best we can to support the university and support the Hispanic community."

"Certainly a better understanding of the impact one person can make, especially in agriculture. That one person can make a difference when they follow these things."

Elsa Murano, director of the Borlaug Institute

Students raise funds to pay local gas station clerk's ticket

By Nikita Redkar

A group of students put their Aggie spirit on display Friday as the nine students paid off the city violation ticket of a Shell station clerk, Asit Biswas.

Biswas was charged one month ago for providing alcohol to a minor. He said he strives to work hard every day and follow the rules and laws of the United States. The night Biswas was ticketed, a customer had been using a fake ID and a police officer happened to be standing outside.

"I like it here very much and I like the system," Biswas said. "But one day, I accidentally made a mistake. A guy came in here and used one ID, and when a police officer stopped him he showed another ID. So the officer gave me a ticket for selling to a minor."

Kevin Langford, agricultural economics senior, said he has known Biswas for three and a half years and the whole incident was a misunderstanding.

"We raised this money because Asit has one of the most amazing stories we have ever heard," Langford said. "We knew the money we raised was going to a man who more

than deserved it."

Four years ago, Biswas won the U.S. Department of State's Diversity Program Lottery, a drawing of immigrant visas available to individuals from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Biswas said he emigrated from Bangladesh in 2009 and has been working at a College Station Shell to support his family ever since.

"I got married four years ago, but my wife could not move to the U.S. because [her visa] took a long time to process and there wasn't enough money," Biswas said. "Six months ago my wife finally arrived here. I have been working four years for her to come here."

Industrial distribution senior Michael Paine said he and his friends wanted to do something to try to help him out financially when they heard about the incident.

"We ended up making a Facebook group to spread the word," Paine said. "After a lot of people heard what happened, one of our friends set up a GoFundMe account to make it easy for people to donate money."

In just 12 hours of the account's link being open, all of the \$2,000 needed to cov-

er the fine had been raised, Paine said.

"Everyone who donated money knew Asit from times they interacted with him at Shell," Paine said. "There were even multiple donations made by those that graduated a year or two ago that remember Asit."

Biswas said the day he received the check from the students was one of the happiest days of his life.

"I didn't know how the court works and I am so thankful for everybody who helped me," Biswas said. "They are such good guys and all have big hearts. I am so happy right now."

Although the students do not condone selling alcohol to minors, they sided with the man who had grown to become their friend.

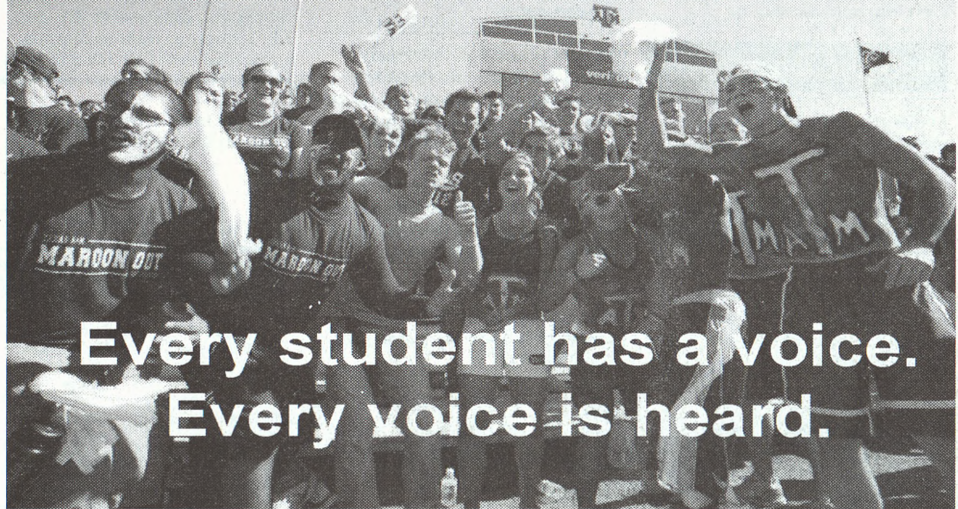
"He's got a contagious smile and he's a very caring man," said finance senior Michael Mullins. "He's always interested in what's happening in our lives, and we care about his as well."

Biswas said he loves College Station and feels he has the friendliest customers.

"People in the U.S. and students here are very friendly," Biswas said. "I feel very good working and living here."

GET LOUD!

Tell us about *your* Aggie experience. We need to hear what you *really* think.



Every student has a voice. Every voice is heard.

Take the Aggie SERU Survey. Win valuable prizes <http://seru.tamu.edu>



Freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, grad students

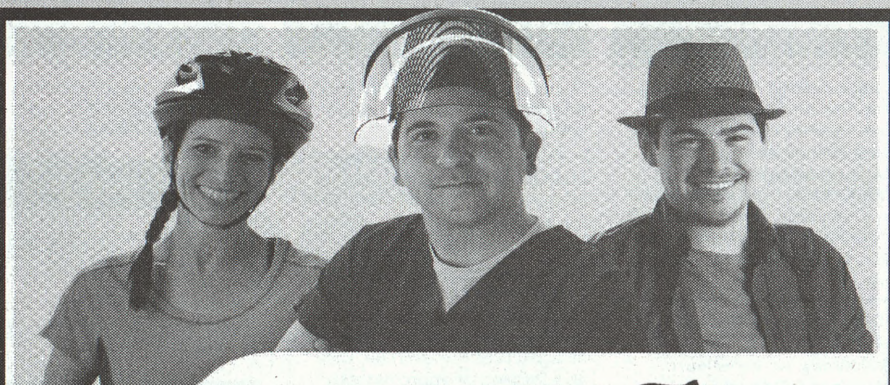
THIS WEEK

get your picture taken for Texas A&M's 2015 Aggieland yearbook, if you didn't last fall. Your portrait sitting is free.



Just walk in 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. Monday through Thursday in the Student Media office, Suite L400 of the MSC. March 12 will be your last chance.

It's your yearbook. Be in it.



OUR PPD TEAM Wears Many Hats

As you might expect, the people involved in developing new medicines wear lots of different hats. What you might not expect is that one of those hats could be one like you might wear. The professionals at PPD have been working with healthy volunteers - people like you - for almost thirty years.

You can be compensated when you participate in a medically supervised research study to help

evaluate a new investigational medication at PPD. So when you volunteer to help create new medications at PPD, everybody wins.

Learn how you can benefit while helping to improve life for all of us by volunteering at PPD. Go online or give us a call today for more information. You'll find studies to fit most any schedule listed here weekly.

BE A PART OF THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE **PPD**

CURRENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

You must meet certain requirements to qualify, including a free medical exam and screening tests.

AGE	COMPENSATION	REQUIREMENTS	TIMELINE
Men and Women 18 to 50	Up to \$2000	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI 20 - 32 Weigh at least 110 lbs.	Mon. 3/23 - Fri. 3/27 Outpatient Visit: 3/28
Men and Women 18 to 55	Up to \$2000	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI 19 - 30 Females weighing at least 110 lbs. Males weighing at least 130 lbs.	Thu. 3/26 - Sun. 3/29 Thu. 4/2 - Sun. 4/5



800-866-0492

Text "PPD" to 48121 to receive study information

ppdi.com