

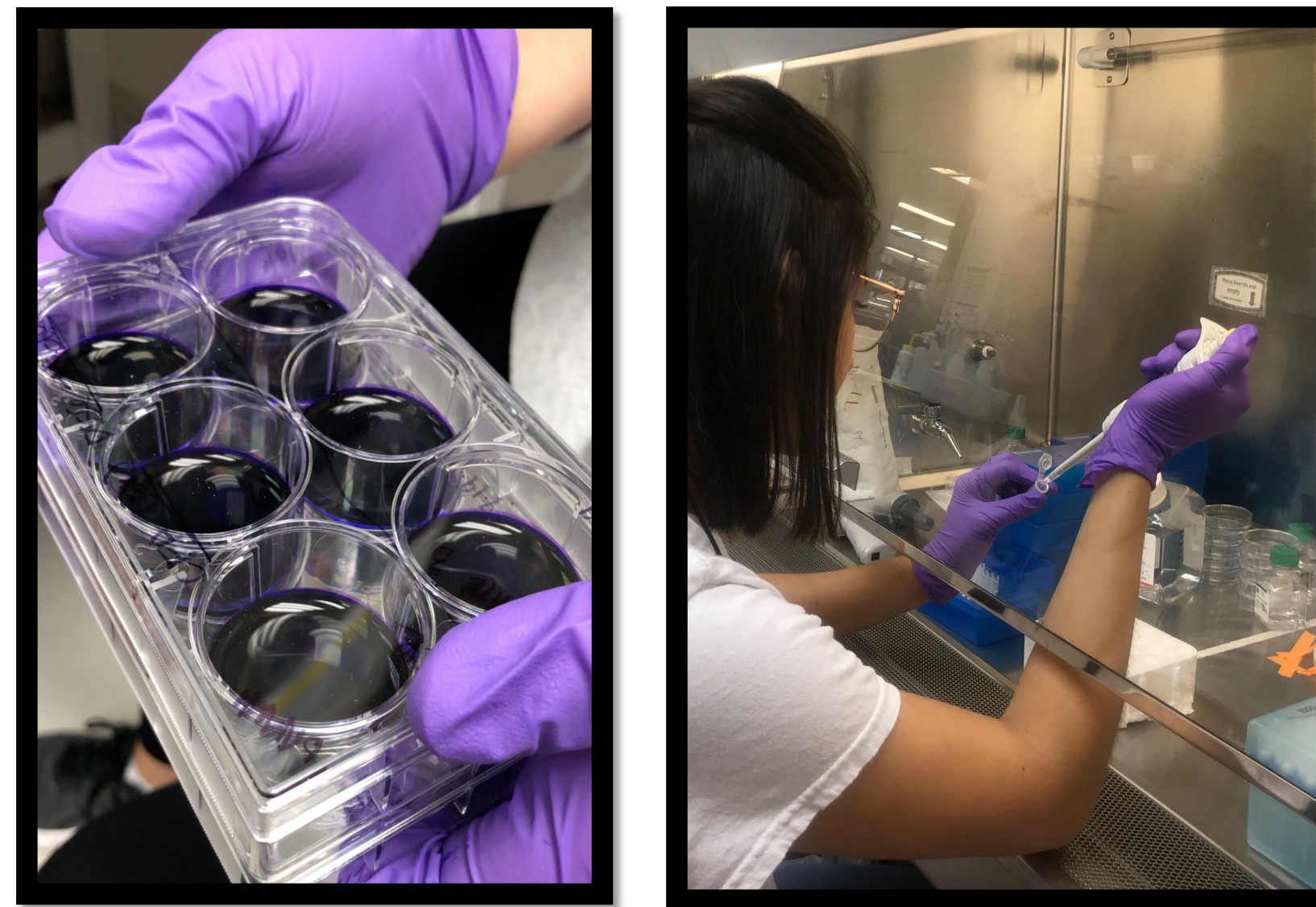


# CPRIT Cancer Research Scholar Program Amanda Gomez, BME, Spring 2021

Professional  
Development

## SUMMARY

The CPRIT Undergraduate Cancer Research Scholar Program is a ten week internship at the UT Health Science Center in San Antonio. Throughout the 10 weeks, I performed cancer research in a lab under the mentorship of a P.I. and attended weekly luncheon seminars. At the end of the internship, I presented my research at a capstone poster session. Since this was my first internship, my main goal was to develop my clinical research skills and understand the research process more intensely. Professionally, I wanted to design and execute a project that worked towards solving the problem of childhood cancer. I was responsible for planning and maintaining my own research experiments, which included cell culture and data analysis. My project, "Understanding the Role of m6A Methyltransferases in Osteosarcoma" established a baseline of research for finding an alternative therapy for osteosarcoma patients.



## SPICES

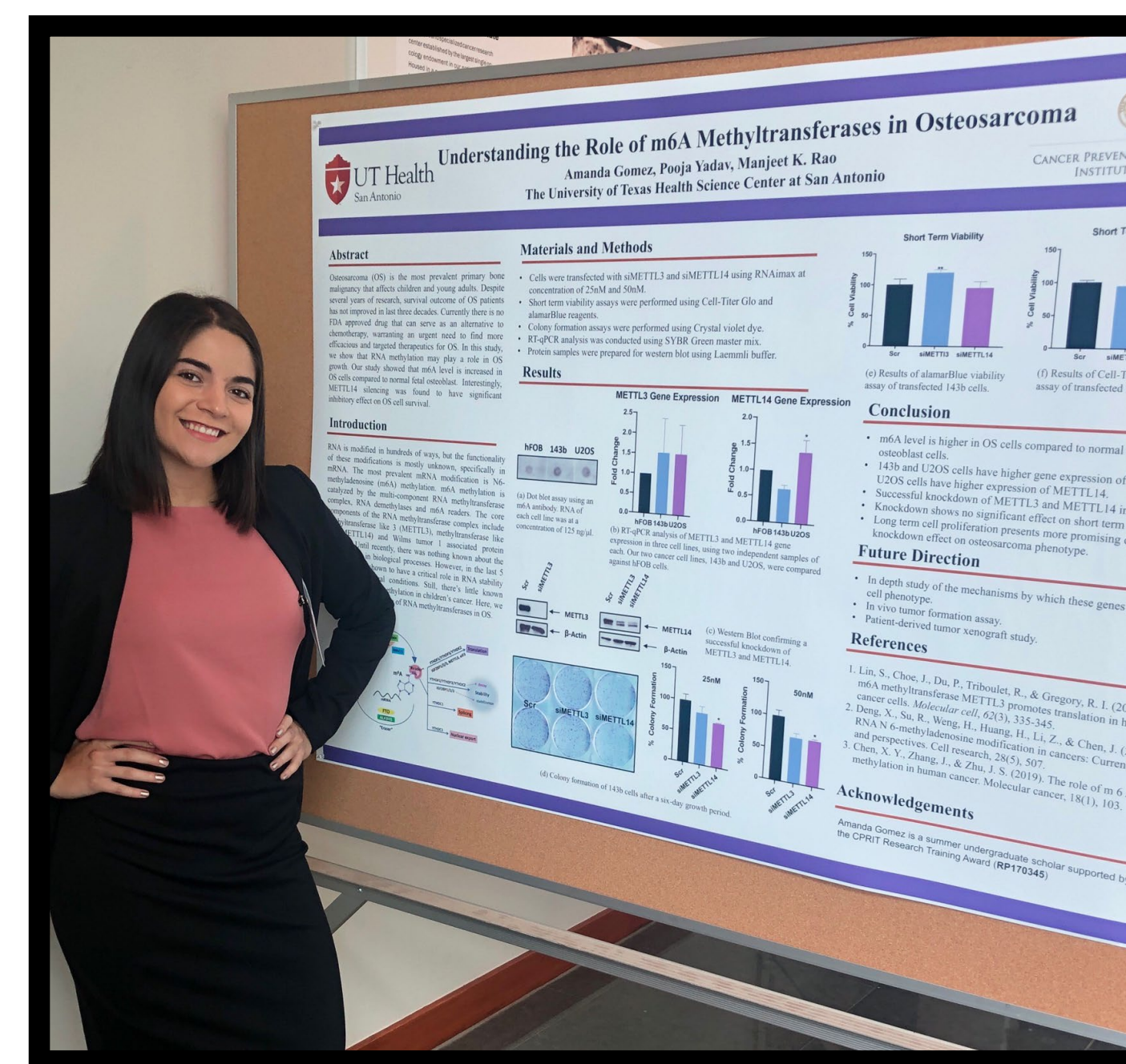
The CPRIT program offered an incredible opportunity for me to be immersed in a professional research environment. Specifically, my poster presentation

## HERBS

On a daily basis during my internship, I exhibited honorable and resilient characteristics. I honored and respected every person who helped me with my project, which had many setbacks that I had to overcome.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Everyday was full of concepts, information, and ideas that were completely new to me. I had to use all my previous knowledge and skills to understand everything presented to me. By the end of the internship, I had achieved a strong sense of intellectual dexterity and team learning.



## IMPACT

The overall purpose of the CPRIT Program is to contribute to the field of cancer research. Specifically, I contributed research for osteosarcoma, which is a pediatric cancer that hasn't seen any therapeutic advances over the last three decades. My research has started to identify a gene that could be targeted to suppress tumor growth. The process of designing and executing a research project met and exceeded my goals for this internship.

## ADVICE

A research internship has a steep learning curve at the beginning. It's easy to feel overwhelmed, but as long as you ask for help and are willing to learn, it will get easier. There's no better feeling than knowing that you've gained so many valuable skills!