On November 7, 2010, five members of the UTSA community attended the 2nd annual Science in Society Conference held in Madrid, Spain, as part of the UT-System LSAMP International Conference experience.

Dr. Rachel Ruiz, Assistant Vice President for P-20 Initiatives, Dr. Harry Millwater for College of Engineering, Dr. Richard LeBaron for College of Sciences, as well as UTSA undergraduates Andrew Baines and Bethaney Watson, represented the UTSA contingency. Other UT System LSAMP Programs sent additional participants to represent their organizations. The international conference, which is funded by the LSAMP grant, gave students and staff a global perspective on research collaboration within STEM initiatives and also allowed to showcase UTSA undergraduate research efforts on an international stage.

"The international conference experience gives our students an opportunity to view STEM initiatives on a global perspective," said Darrell Balderrama, Director of Outreach Programs in the UTSA Office of P-20 Initiatives. "UTSA’s LSAMP program was very fortunate to send two undergraduate students, their research faculty members and an Office of P-20 Initiatives administrator. Both Andrew and Beth demonstrated a great level of dedication to the summer research academy which helped in determining who would represent UTSA in Madrid."

- Bethaney Watson, a senior pursuing a bachelor's degree in clinical laboratory science, applied to attend the Science in Society Conference because of the possible opportunities an international conference would present. She presented her research on Integrated Systems Biology Reveals Dynamics of TGFβ Signaling in Bone Cancer Treatment under the direction of Dr. Richard LeBaron and Dr. Clyde Phelix.
- Andrew Baines, a sophomore pursuing a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering, was excited about the opportunity to be considered for a spot to attend and was even more thrilled about getting the chance to visit Madrid. Andrew’s research in the summer centered on working with Dr. Millwater’s advanced visualization lab.

The UTSA LSAMP program offers research-based opportunities and support to undergraduate students pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. New participants join the program each semester. Photo below includes the UT System LSAMP Participants.