

**AcademiCast Transcript**  
**Texas Tech University**  
**May 9, 2012**

Irlbeck: Hello and welcome to “AcademiCast”—Texas Tech University’s biweekly podcast series from the Office of the Provost. I’m Scott Irlbeck, and I’ll be covering the top academic stories on campus. Later in the program, Provost Bob Smith will spotlight Student of Integrated Scholarship Jordan Wallace.

First, the news...

University College recently welcomed visitors who are offering Texas Tech’s English-language educational programs in classrooms in Brazil. Through TTUISD, students explore a range of subjects, including economics and American history. Rosella Beer coordinates TTUISD’s educational program at the Leonardo DaVinci School in Brazil.

Beer: Normally, students, when they apply, when they take their entrance test, they might be very immature and disorganized. They might not like reading or writing. And so I believe that the program helps them with writing skills. It makes them better at writing Portuguese, as well. So they learn things in the program that they transfer to other subjects.

Irlbeck: At the DaVinci School, TTUISD courses complement Brazil’s required curriculum. So students who complete their Brazilian courses along with the TTUISD program receive two diplomas when they graduate.

Beer: They’re going to be very good at whatever they choose to do. So they’re going to be very good lawyers or doctors or engineers. A very good percentage entered L’Universit  di San Paulo, which is our top university, the best of the best. And it’s not easy to get to L’USP, that’s what it’s called. I would say 70 percent of the group that graduated, passed, so I consider that excellent. They are prepared.

Irlbeck: Beer and other visitors from Brazil came to Texas Tech to explore further opportunities in their TTUISD partnership.

Childhood obesity tops the third edition of the online research magazine—Texas Tech Discoveries. The recently launched magazine spotlights scientists who are working to promote healthy eating habits and lifestyle choices for children in West Texas. The magazine also features articles on archaeological excavation in the U.K., crocodile species in Cuba, and preservation of the quail population in Texas. Texas Tech Discoveries is produced by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

A team of graduate business students is celebrating their first-place finish in the Texas Shoot-Out MBA Challenge. Students from the Rawls College of Business won \$5,000 for their site redevelopment plan of the Reunion/Union Station in downtown Dallas. Texas Tech’s proposal topped entries from the University of Texas, Texas A&M, and several other universities in the

state. The event was hosted by the North Texas chapter of the Commercial Real Estate Development association.

Along with a commitment to academics, Students of Integrated Scholarship pursue a course of lifelong learning through their dedication to active learning. Modes of active learning include internships, service learning experiences, undergraduate and graduate research, and opportunities to study abroad. In this edition of "AcademiCast," Provost Bob Smith spotlights a Student of Integrated Scholarship—Jordan Wallace.

Smith: Driven by his interests in mathematics and the intricacies of commerce, Jordan Wallace came to Texas Tech to pursue a degree in business. He accomplished his goal, graduating with a bachelor's in general business in December 2011. One of the keys to Wallace's success was his engagement in active learning through participation in internships and service-learning courses. Indeed, his most valuable opportunity arose after a chance meeting with Lee Lewis, whose namesake construction company was primarily responsible for the new Rawls College of Business Administration.

Wallace: At that time they were doing the demolition on the old dorms that were here, just so happened I had ran into Lee Lewis, who is the general contractor on the project, and expressed to him my interest in wanting to become part of the company and be on this project so I could find a way to serve my school and learn at the same time outside of the classroom.

Smith: Wallace began interning with the construction firm in 2009, while he was still in school. Since graduating, he has joined the company as a full-time employee.

Wallace: I think it's mainly because of that internship that I participated in that I was able to get such a good job opportunity coming out of college. One thing that Lee has told me is very important, is exercising different limits and going beyond what the person right next to you is doing, and going and finding something that's beyond what the minimum level is these days.

Smith: In addition to his internship at Lee Lewis, Wallace has been actively engaged in service-learning courses. He has also participated in a number of community outreach projects.

Wallace: The main one that I participate in is the Neonatal Clinic over at the University Medical Center, and it's a program designed through Children's Miracle Network, and we've done numerous events over the past three years, one being Dance Marathon. I had met somebody who had worked in Children's Miracle Network. She invited me to go walk through there, and on the second floor of the UMC, you see these babies that are smaller than your hand, and you see them, it kind of, your heart kind of pours out to them.

Smith: Attesting to his initiative and commitment to service, Wallace established a nonprofit organization that further benefits the neonatal program at the University Medical Center.

Wallace: We are in the process of putting a plan together, and picking events that interact with fraternities. The fraternity that I was in at Texas Tech, we did an event called Fight Night, back whenever I was a student at Texas Tech, and we raised a lot of money, and it was really well

organized, and so I became more interested in finding different ways to create events in order to raise money, and right now all of our proceeds, like I said, go straight to the Children's Miracle Network at University Medical Center.

Smith: Not one to rest on his laurels, Wallace encourages other students to become involved—as he did—in activities outside of Texas Tech's lecture halls, studios and laboratories.

Wallace: Go out there, find something you're interested in. Don't use the excuse that you hear most college students saying, well I don't have enough time for this, or my classes are taking up all of my schedule, or there's a party this weekend, or something, you know, that would take you off of your main focus. You're in college to get a good education, and you don't have to be in the classroom to actually learn that. There's many people throughout Texas Tech that can connect you with local business owners, and get you involved, and ultimately, that's where you want to get your experience, is in the field that you're trying to reach.

Smith: Indeed, Jordan Wallace's undergraduate experience has been enriched by his leadership and service efforts to give back to his community. Some years ago, author Forrester Church noted: "To be fulfilled we need to recognize, all of us, that the world doesn't owe us a living—rather we owe the world a living. And in the brief time that is given to us, we must somehow learn to give ourselves away." There's no doubt that other students would find their own lives similarly enhanced by following Wallace's and Church's advice.

Thanks for listening! I'm Bob Smith.

Irlbeck: Thanks, Dr. Smith! If you would like to learn more about Texas Tech's Students of Integrated Scholarship, please visit our website at **[academicast.ttu.edu](http://academicast.ttu.edu)**.

And finally, "AcademiCast" would like to congratulate the newest members of Phi Beta Kappa at Texas Tech. The university inducted 70 students into its chapter. Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest honor society in the nation, and only three public universities in Texas host chapters.

That concludes this edition of "AcademiCast." If you would like to learn more about our program or the stories featured here, please visit our website at **[academicast.ttu.edu](http://academicast.ttu.edu)**. Thanks for listening, and join us again in two more weeks for the latest academic news from Texas Tech University.