

Strong partnerships build student success at the University of Maribor, Slovenia

Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance



“Having a career working with Microsoft Dynamics is great because it challenges you and allows you to solve business problems in new ways. Every day you can learn something new that adds to your business knowledge and personal experiences.”

- **Natalija Vinšek,**
Application Consultant for Microsoft Dynamics NAV, Adacta Group

The **University of Maribor’s** partnership with **Adacta Group** in Slovenia enhances classroom experiences with Microsoft Dynamics NAV and proves to be first step to a career for graduates like **Natalija Vinšek**.

It has been two years since Natalija Vinšek started with Adacta, but she remembers the day her professor emailed her that the Microsoft partner was looking to hire students with Microsoft Dynamics NAV experience. It was an excellent opportunity for Vinšek, who was just finishing her diploma in E-Business at the University of Maribor in Slovenia. As she continues her post-graduate studies, it is clear to Vinšek that her hard work and the opportunities to experience Microsoft Dynamics NAV offered by the University of Maribor gave her an edge in her career.

Adacta has hired nine students like Vinšek full-time from the University of Maribor and even more have worked for the company through their internship program.

Study programs enhanced by dynamic partners

Vinšek was first introduced to enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems in her second year class, “Integrated Business Information Systems – ERP Solutions”. This is the core course in the E-Business field, explained Simona Sternad Zabukovsek, Assistant Professor of E-Business, and Samo Bobek, Head of the E-Business Department at the University of Maribor. The department decided to focus this course on Microsoft Dynamics NAV because it is the most often implemented ERP solution in Slovenian companies and there is a lack of people have an understanding of business processes and know how to implement these ERP solutions. The University of Maribor provides students this understanding and experience.

Microsoft Dynamics courses at the University of Maribor emphasize practical learning and individual learning. “Instead of passively listening to lectures, or participating in simulations that have little connection to real-life use of Microsoft Dynamics solutions, students put their work into context with real-world solutions and consequently gain excellent experiences,” wrote Zabukovsek and Bobek of the program.

And, further enhancing students’ success Adacta Group has partnered with the university to enrich their curriculum by providing regular guest lecturers, case studies to improve students’ problem solving skills and developing an introductory course in ERP solutions. Adacta also hires 10 student interns per year and actively seeks out students at career fairs and recruitment events.

Besides Adacta, the University of Maribor also works with other Microsoft partners who implement Microsoft Dynamics solutions in Slovenia, including, Navigaris, Org.Tend, SRC, Business Solutions, Krajnik Computers and LS Retail.

Excellent students like Vinšek are given an opportunity each year to take a one-week intensive training on Microsoft Dynamics NAV. The University of Maribor, Microsoft partners, and Microsoft work together to organize this workshop each year that prepares students to take the Microsoft Dynamics NAV Core Setup and Finance exam. Vinšek passed this exam with excellence, as do the majority of students who receive this high level of training.

“When our students compete for a job, they have enough knowledge of Microsoft Dynamics solutions to increase their job prospects,” wrote Zabukovsek and Bobek. “Those who also earn certifications are highly employable by employers in the region.”

The university also offers a similar workshop for Microsoft Dynamics CRM. The University of Maribor teaches several Microsoft Dynamics solutions including Microsoft Dynamics CRM, Microsoft Dynamics NAV, and soon Microsoft Dynamics AX as well, in courses at the undergraduate and post-graduate level.

Continuing education and career

With her Microsoft Dynamics NAV certificate she now works as an Application Consultant for Microsoft Dynamics NAV, specializing in finance. She also has the flexibility to pursue her current post-graduate studies in Information Systems and E-Business Management also at the University of Maribor.

“Having a career working with Microsoft Dynamics is great because it challenges you and allows you to solve business problems in new ways,” said Vinšek. “Every day you can learn something new that adds to

your business knowledge and personal experiences” she added.

[Adacta Group](#) is a Microsoft partner based in Ljubljana, Slovenia, that develops and implements business IT solutions, provides business consulting and change management services in their region and beyond.

The [University of Maribor](#) is the second largest university in Slovenia and became a Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance premier-level member in 2014. The University of Maribor provides students a competitive advantage in the job market through classroom experience with the latest Microsoft Dynamics software used every day by more than 350,000 organizations and thousands of Microsoft partners worldwide. Find out more about the Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance by visiting <http://www.microsoft.com/dynamicsaa>.