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Footpaths to Sustainability: A Case Study from Maribor's High School

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Abstract

In response to societal and climatic changes, we present a unique approach at our high school (SGŠG Maribor), Slovenia. We recognize the need for adaptive knowledge and skills to navigate a sustainable future. As part of the national initiative 'Climate Goals and Contents in Education', our contribution elucidates the role of advanced technologies, digitalization, and sustainability principles in vocational education. The study highlights the experiences and skills gained through project-based learning with students, specifically through the Climate Goals and Content in Education (PCVIZ) project. We further illustrate the real-world application of these concepts through a current practical case: revitalizing the school atrium and applying green infrastructure principles. The revitalized atrium serves as a space for socialization, outdoor learning, and enhanced connection with nature for students and teachers. The value of this contribution lies in its demonstration of the practical application of theoretical concepts, innovative solutions to modern educational challenges, its focus on sustainability, and its interdisciplinary approach. This study catalyzes further discourse on the role of sustainability in education.

Keywords: sustainability in education; climate change; green transition; project-based learning; green infrastructure

Analysis of the accounting law of non-profit organizations in Republic of North Macedonia-Challenges and Recommendations

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Abstract

Non-profit organizations are obliged to keep accounts, compile and submit accounting statements in accordance with the law and accepted accounting principles, accounting practices and accounting standards. The main aim is to create accurate, reliable and up-to-date statements of balance positions, both the assets and liabilities, sources of funds, income and expenses and the results of operations. The law on accounting of non-profit organizations regulates the keeping of accounts, business books, accounting documents and data processing, recognition of income and expenses, assessment of balance sheet positions, submission of financial statements and other issues related to accounting. Additionally, non-profit organizations are obliged to keep accounting according to the system of double-entry accounting and according to the schedule of accounts from the accounting plan for non-profit organizations. The law on accounting of non-profit organizations prescribes the accounting principles and rules, as well as the content of the basic financial information that is disclosed by civil organizations to interested parties. The purpose of this paper is the analysis of the law on accounting of non-profit organizations. In addition to the legal framework, this analysis also includes research through the form of a survey questionnaire as well as direct interviews with relevant representatives regarding the application of the law. The analysis provides a detailed overview of the current legal regulations, as well as recommendations for their revision. The subject of the paper is the management of accounting, business books, accounting documents and data processing, financial statements, as well as other issues related to the accounting of non-profit organizations.

Keywords: accounting, law, non-profit, principles, financial information.

Reducing the Risk of Disasters Caused by Epidemics

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Abstract

Epidemics are the most common natural phenomena that have occurred throughout the entire history of human society. Depending on the type of disease and the development of the collective immunity that society had acquired by then, the consequences of epidemics were usually very severe. Precisely because of this, the aim of the paper is a scientific description of the way in which the prescribed preventive measures should be applied from the epidemiological, security, economic, legal and other aspects, so that the society, through the mechanisms of the state, can defend and rehabilitate the consequences of an epidemic of an infectious disease. Eliminating the epidemic's impacts is a very difficult issue. In particular, there is an infectious illness epidemic that is spreading uncontrolled throughout society on the one hand. In order to introduce a quarantine that restricts the epidemic's progress and, if the quarantine lasts long enough, to end the epidemic, contact between members of the social group must be broken. On the other side, the cessation of communication between members of a social group also signifies the cessation of all facets of life in that society, including economic ties, education, growth of culture, scientific research, etc.

Keywords: disasters, emergencies, management, epidemics, reducing.

Estimating the progress of Albania toward the green growth

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Abstract

The concepts of green economy and green growth are the main focus of various international organizations. The interest for green economy and green growth is increasing rapidly. Green growth is an approach for fostering the economic growth and development while meeting the environmental protection objectives and social equity. OECD has developed the Green Growth Strategy, which provide a framework for the achievement of economic growth and development. The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) is advising countries for the implementation of Green Growth Strategy. The Balkan region has endorsed the Green Agenda for the Western Balkan (GAWB) and as well as the GAWB Action Plan. Albania is a West Balkan Country. The Albanian Law on Protection of Environment defines the key principles for supporting Green Growth. We have selected 17 indicators from the OECD Green Growth database in order to analyze and monitor the progress towards green growth. In this study we have selected 8 South European Countries, three countries are member of the EU (Greece, Croatia, Bulgaria) and 5 of them are non EU countries (Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Hercegovina). The production based CO₂ productivity, displays an increasing trend with a value of 9.85 for 2021. Albania is performing well in terms of the supply of renewable energy and renewable electricity, but has the lowest stock of forest of a value 54.93 and is displaying a decreasing trend compared to previous periods. The results can be used by the policy makers for developing a policy for the improvement of these indicators.

Keywords: OECD Green Growth database, green growth indicators, environment

Alterations affecting LRRK2 gene signaling in Parkinson disease

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Abstract

Parkinson disease (PD) is a chronic neurodegenerative pathology affecting both motor and nonmotor body functions. The prevalence of this disease is around 1% of the elderly over 60 years old, and up to 5% in people over 85 years old. It is characterized by difficulty in movement and constant shaking. Even though the majority of cases of PD are attributed to idiopathic or sporadic factors, 10% are of inherited genetic causes. Other afflicting factors depend on the age of the individual or environmental factors. One of the most common genetic mutations leading to late onset familial PD, are alterations of the LRRK2 gene responsible of coding leucine-rich repeat kinase 2 (LRRK2). Whilst the mutations in LRRK2 lead to increased activity in the brain and can induce neuron damages in the patients, the underlying mechanism is still unknown. Our study focuses on identifying possible mutations of non-synonymous nucleotide polymorphisms (nSNPs) in the LRRK2 gene and assessing their effects in the downstream signaling pathway. We analyzed 30 different variant mutations affecting LRRK2 with 3 mutation prediction tools to evaluate their effects on the encoded protein. This was coupled with several in silico software to analyze and predict the protein structure, its solvent and surface accessibility, changes in either structure or function of the corresponding amino acid and gene conservation. We elucidate the role of these mutations and their effects on the LRRK2 gene, and by extension the corresponding signaling pathway in PD.

Keywords: Parkinson disease, LRRK2, mutation, protein, signaling

Fertility overview of males in Albania

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Abstract

Approximately 1 in 7 couples suffers or has suffered from infertility problems. Recent technological developments for assisted reproduction have put the strain on women and women have been primarily regarded as the responsible party for the infertility problem. But men are as likely to contribute to this issue as well. Male infertility is caused by several factors such as low sperm production, abnormal sperm function or defective sperm delivery. Other factors that might contribute to low male fertility are linked to infections, illnesses, lifestyle or other health issues. One deciding factor are the low levels of testosterone in the blood. Even though low testosterone has not been identified directly as causing infertility, it can lead to decreased sperm production. Low testosterone levels also effect fertility because of reduced sex drive and it is involved in erectile dysfunction. Our study focuses on a three-year period (2020-2022), where we analyzed 65 patients in Albania each year to check the levels of testosterone and the accompanying hormones, luteinizing (LH) and follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) in the blood. The focus group were patients in the fertility age range (20-40), before this fertility is being reduced by physiological factors. Our results show an increase in the level of testosterone each year (approximately 10%) in these patients, but a decrease in the levels of FSH (35-42%), and steady levels of LH in patients. The focus of this study was to elucidate the levels of the three deciding hormones responsible for infertility in males and to give a preliminary overview of the fertility situation post-Covid in Albania.

Keywords: Fertility, testosterone, luteinizing hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, males.

Diagnostic Related Group-based financing for Georgian Health - Risks and Chances

Kakhaber Djakeli

Abstract

Itself Marketing opens new bright approaches and ways, especially in customer experienced fields of studies (Sheth, 2021). The Diagnostic Related Group methodology is not new, it comes from 1980 (De Dombal, et al, 1994). The use of marketing techniques into health financing can create a lot of practical methods. One of the most interesting approaches what marketing type of segmentation can offer to health is the Diagnostic Related Grouping model. In this model healthcare system administrators and managers can segment customers by diagnosis. For the customers of different diagnosis, health system can establish different flat payments according various indicators among which we see the number of patients under the same diagnosis and the costs of treatment. But this method has some risks for patients. It can motivate healthcare providers to avoid patients with big health issues and attract patients with mild health problems. Now Georgia tries to implement Diagnostic Related Group-based financing in Georgia. To know how country and its healthcare are ready for Diagnostic Related Group model the research was done. The research is divided into two main designs: exploratory and the descriptive. In exploratory Market research, the literature review was done to elaborate the right problems of the research and establish the right hypothesis. In next stage when right hypothesis is elaborated the Delphi Survey was established. In this Delphi Survey we try to analyze the opinion of experienced Georgian Experts of the field. The sample, what was collected through Snow Ball approach is complaining health managers, health economists, doctors, physicians and health marketers, who either know well the problems of Georgian health and who also know the Diagnostic Related Grouping model with its advantages and disadvantages.

Publicly health finances follow two main ways, either German Social Health Insurance model or tax funded health care financing, known as a Beveridge Model from UK. Cost containment in Healthcare was started in Germany, which developed the model of social health insurance to finance the health (Graf von der Schulenburg, et al, 1997). The German Social Health Insurance model has four main pillars: the compulsory membership, income dependent contributions, paid by employees and employers, comprehensive health package, strong government regulation, non-profit sickness funds under the public law. The cost benefit ratios, like Quality Adjusted Life Years and perspectives of living are also included in some health financing methodologies, experimented in Germany (Graf von der Schulenburg, et al, 2007). The English way was different, they established the public health financing system financed by taxation. Cost containment is urgent problem of today's health. The aging of population, new health technologies, need to the new infrastructure, health reform approaches and goals struggling with the question of healthcare cost dumping (Djakeli, 2013).

Itself Diagnose Related Groups can be defined as a Patient Classification System what tries to equalize the patients with same diagnosis to reimburse them with same flat payment, according the principles of prospect payment system. As we live in the era of Short Inpatient Stays at Hospitals it is relevant to make great diagnosis and try to decrease the costs of healthcare through special approaches and techniques. Diagnostic related Grouping what belongs to Prospective Payment System (PPS), using flat rate payments for each hospital stay is very popular now (Ishii,2012). Using the approach of Diagnostic Related Group can actually decrease costs of hospitals and increase the process efficiency (Elkin, et al, 2010). Economy in health system management can be achieved by markedly decreased costs (De Dombal, et al, 1996). Physician and researcher - Tim de Dombal at the University of Leeds created the "first abdominal pain diagnosis program based on Bayesian probability theory" (Elkin, et al, 2010). The implementation of Diagnostic Related Group payment systems is all times risky. For Example when South Korean government adopted the Prospective Payment System based on Diagnostic Related Groups the Medical Association of this country was in opposition and physicians started their strikes against DRG innovation (Ishii, 2012). With innovations in Digitalization of many different services the health is in the changing process, also influencing the prices and qualities of health (Gigauri, et al, 2021).

The legislation on transport of dangerous goods

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Abstract

The description of the cargo for transport is an important feature of the negotiation between the parties to any contract; transport law, and particularly the rules of private law which form part of transport law, are among those areas in which the need for security and unification of law is felt more strongly. Road transport of dangerous goods is a risky business that can cause serious troubles if the vehicles on which this type of things are loaded are involved in an accident. However, the contrast between the private interest in carrying out a business and the public interest that aims to safeguard human life and the environment leads to believe that this kind of transport is fully lawful, even though it requires the adoption of special measures for prevention and intervention in the event of an accident. The first step to be taken is the identification of the legal sources and the definition of dangerous goods. The subject is ruled by many laws and regulations both national and EU; some of them deal with liability, while others impose technical prescriptions regarding the rules to comply with and the precautions to be taken during transport. They all represent specific duties for all the people involved in this kind of transport. However, it must be underlined that different regulations in so many countries would seriously hinder, if not make impossible and unsafe, the international transport of dangerous goods, including chemical, radioactive and certain types of waste. Furthermore, dangerous goods are also subject to other regulations, such as those concerning safety at work, consumer protection, storage regulations and environmental protection. As a matter of fact, this kind of transport can cause considerable prejudice to people and to the environment; that is why a specific regulation is necessary.

Translation, Interpretation, and Language Use

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Abstract

Translation, interpreting, and language studies are essential fields for the exchange of ideas and communication across languages and cultures. These disciplines have become increasingly important in our globalized world, where cross-cultural interactions are becoming more frequent and necessary. Translation involves the transfer of written content from one language to the next, to preserve the original meaning and style. Translators must have a strong comprehension of both sources and target languages, as well as an awareness of the cultural contexts in which the texts were written. They must also possess excellent writing skills in the intended language to ensure that the translated text reads naturally.

Interpreting, on the other hand, involves the transfer of spoken language, either simultaneously or consecutively, between two or more parties. Interpreters must be able to think quickly and accurately, understand the nuances of the culture and language as well as be familiar with a wide range of subject matter. There are different modes of interpreting, such as consecutive, simultaneous, and whispered interpreting, each with its own unique set of challenges. Language use involves the study of languages themselves, including their structure, grammar, and usage. This field encompasses a wide range of areas, including linguistics, philology, and sociolinguistics, among others. Language studies can help us better understand how languages function, how they evolve, and how they shape and are shaped by culture.

In conclusion, translation, interpreting, and language studies play a vital role in promoting cross-cultural communication and understanding. As the world becomes more interconnected, the demand for professionals in these fields is likely to continue to grow, and their contributions will be increasingly important for promoting mutual respect and cooperation between people of different cultures and languages.

Keywords: Translation, Interpreting, Language use, cross-cultural, communication

Educazione attraverso il teatro e la tecnologia nelle scuole, aspetti educativi, culturali e sociali

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Abstract

L'educazione attraverso il teatro e la tecnologia, come metodo sperimentato con successo nell'insegnamento e nell'apprendimento, influisce qualitativamente sulla preparazione degli studenti come degni cittadini della società, oltre a contribuire ad altri aspetti della salute mentale, culturale, ecc.

Il laboratorio drammatico fondato 10 anni fa, oltre all'introduzione del tema della drammatizzazione dei testi letterari nel Master Professionale, presso l'Università di Tirana, ha già maturato esperienze di qualità negli aspetti citati, contribuendo a consolidare il focus della "lo studente al centro del curriculum", in accordo con gli obiettivi europei dell'educazione. Questa esperienza unica nell'istruzione Albanese, sarà al centro del articolo .

Parole chiave: Educazione, drama, teatro, studente, drammatizzazione,

Cost management and small restaurant firms: challenges and the role of management

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Abstract

The objective of this article is to discuss the role of management in monitoring costs. Cost management is important to the financial viability of a restaurant. An important question is how managerial decisions affect observed costs. Understanding costs can be traced through costing, financial and managerial accounting. Understanding the relationship between a restaurant's costs and the value it provides to its customers is key to a restaurant's ability to reach its full profit potential, i.e., reach its target performance. From this perspective, the importance of understanding activities, their costs and their relationship with market prices is emphasized.

Keywords: banquets revenue, management, business's profitability, profit centre.

Banquets revenue and business's profitability

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Abstract

One of the most crucial pieces of information at the hotel banquet is revenue data. Revenue forecast enables cost reduction, increases staffing efficiency, and provides information that helps maximize competitive advantages in a turbulent environment. The hospitality industry is increasingly recognizing the importance of integrating revenue management into their business and the importance of their staff to do so, especially in the area of segment revenue tracking. The aim of this article is to point out the importance of proper management of banquets revenue for the business's profitability.

Keywords: banquets revenue, management, business's profitability, profit centre.

Innovation design in catering service

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Abstract

The objective of this article is to discuss the catering service innovation process. In today's rapidly changing environment, the problem of increasing the competitiveness of organizations is becoming more emphasized. Restaurants and hotels are developing quickly in such an environment to adapt to it, and therefore competitiveness is an especially important factor for long-term survival. Innovations certainly have a dominant place in the development process.

Keywords: banquets revenue, management, business's profitability, profit centre.

Human resources management and restaurant performances

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Abstract

The objective of this article is to discuss the specifics of human resource management in restaurants. It started from the idea that good HR results have a positive influence on business performance. The restaurant's bottom line (net profit) and margins are driven by certain HR practices, including encouraging employees to go above and beyond the call of duty. Attention is focused on how achieving HR goals affects restaurant performance.

Keywords: management, human resources, restaurant, performances.
