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## COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES “LAVOSLAV RUŽIČKA” IN VUKOVAR

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At the end of September of 2005, the President of the Croatian Government formally opened the College of Applied Sciences “Lavoslav Ružička” in Vukovar and in his statement for the occasion he said that Croatia was not just as strong as Zagreb, as its centre, but as strong as its outlying areas.

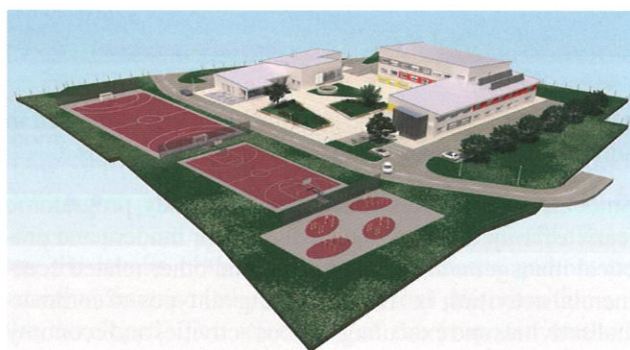
The College bears the name of the first Croatian Nobel Prize winner **Leopold Ružička**, who was born in Vukovar in 1887, the fact we are especially proud of, and in order to commemorate his name and his scientific achievement, a roundel with his bust was erected in front of the College building.

The College began its activities in the historic Jirkovsky Palace, and its three professional studies are attended by 196 enrolled students. The dedication and direction of the College is to offer the highest quality knowledge and skills to the students, and to prepare them for the labour market and a successful future through its three study programmes.

The physiotherapy study is one of the most attractive studies in the Republic of Croatia; students who complete it can immediately find employment and are capable of independent work. The teachers at the study are top experts in various clinical areas, and practical classes are held in healthcare institutions and our excellently equipped Trauma and Fitness Centre. The syllabus structure for the undergraduate study programme in physiotherapy is based on the specific professional area of physiotherapy and clinical content, with obligatory basic sciences and additional healthcare content. Education of students at the undergraduate study level means adopting knowledge and skills related to the assessment of the condition, setting



Polytechnic started its activity in the historic Palace of Jirkovský, and to his three professional study enrolled 196 students. Committed to through its three study programs provide students with expert knowledge and skills and to prepare them for the labor market and successful future.



goals, and planning and applying physiotherapy, according to the age, needs, and dysfunctions of the individual.

The specialist graduate professional study Preventive Physiotherapy is a new and innovative study programme, a mix of biomedicine and kinesiology, and after completing the two-year programme, the students are competent in organisation, analysis, and research of applied physiotherapy models in sports, recreation, and wellness. This qualifies them to work independently in healthcare institutions, health and rehabilitation centres, professional sports clubs, centres for recreational sports activities and institutions of higher education, wellness centres, and other health tourism facilities, as well as professional and scientific research projects in the area of physiotherapy. The proposal for starting this specialist graduate professional study in the area of preventive physiotherapy in sports, recreation, and wellness is aimed at continuous suitable education for persons deciding to work in the area of biomedicine and healthcare of physically active individuals.

Students at the professional Administrative Study programme acquire theoretical knowledge, and through their practical work in various state and local administration bodies, they acquire the necessary skills and become qualified for professional and independent work in various administrative and legal areas of state administration, local and regional self-government, public sector institutions, commercial companies, and similar bodies that require these types of professionals. Some of our students are employees of various state administration bodies like the police, customs administration, administrative departments of counties and cities, companies, and a significant number of teachers come from just those types of institutions and





offer students practical and specific knowledge required in administration bodies and other similar institutions.

Students at the professional Business Study programme learn techniques and workplace skills for modern and practical management of commercial and other related commercial activities, i.e. for conducting all types of commercial activities and executing various activities and economy related services, marketing, entrepreneurship and operational management, transport, forwarding, warehouse services, product knowledge, commercial public warehouse services, commercial activities in state administration bodies and institutions, and similar. Through their professional practice in many commercial companies, students acquire practical knowledge and skills, and after completing the study, they can successfully become established in that area of economy, they can find jobs without difficulty and successfully advance through the ranks.

The College went through several stages of development, and currently new specialist and professional studies are being established. Those studies will enable the students to continue with their education and develop professionally in the areas of biomedicine, kinesiology, administration, food technology, and commerce.

As an homage to "Lavoslav Ružička", the College is intensively working on a new undergraduate professional study programme in food technology and chemistry in agriculture, related to production and processing of fruit and vegetables, which is compatible with development goals of the Vukovar-Srijem County.

With the help of European funds, the College is building a gymnasium and a student dormitory to provide better conditions for students.



The state as the founder and the management of the College are aware of the great responsibility for the education of young people from Vukovar and the Vukovar-Srijem County, and beyond, who will use the knowledge they acquire at the "Lavoslav Ružička" College to develop the local economy, find their place at the labour market, provide for their families, and avoid economic migrations.

A young person's decision to enrol into any of the study programmes at the College means that they want quality education, because theoretical and practical parts of the courses will guarantee they will have great opportunities for employment and advancement. Our teachers and associates are mostly people with experience in economy, state administration, and healthcare, and they use a proactive approach for transferring practical knowledge to the students and helping them become professionals in their field.

Today there are nearly 900 students enrolled in the three undergraduate professional programmes and one specialist graduate study programme, and we expect that this number will be over a thousand students, once the new study programmes are established.

Today the College is also a scientific institution, because it is engaged in a large scientific and research programme in the area of biomedical sciences with the Institute for Anthropological Research from Zagreb, and it is also a participant in several international projects, especially in IPI Interreg with Hungary and Serbia. It also has a well organised quality system, which conforms to ESG guidelines and international ISO standards, it achieves great results in the area of student sports and it has been selected to participate in the European University Games Zagreb-Rijeka 2016.

English translation Antonija Šarić, Faculty of Food Technology Osijek, Croatia

