THE IMPROVEMENT OF TEACHING FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING WITH MODERN ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE

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Accounting and Finance are key elements of business life, and Accounting software programs are also the lifeline of Accountancy . If you do not know one of these accounting software applications you will not able to work as an accountant or an auditor , whereas information technologies are rapidly changing, improving that influence nearly on all spheres. It became essential at Universities to teach not only Financial Accounting but also Accounting Software Applications. This enables students to get to know in detail to real activities of the accountant, and then to become a professional and competitive in the labor market. Nowadays there are widely known the following programmes: “Oris Accounting”, “Super Fin”, “1C”, “Info”, “Apex”, “Fina” etc.

Accounting and accountancy are generally concerned with measuring and communicating the financial information provided from accounting systems, and the reporting of financial results to shareholders, lenders, creditors, employees and Government. The owners or shareholders of the wide range of business entities that use accounting may be assumed to have the primary objective of maximisation of shareholder wealth. Directors of the business manage the resources of the business to meet shareholders’ objectives.

The original, basic purposes of accounting were to classify and record monetary transactions and present the financial statement, results of the activities of an entity, in other words the scorecard that shows how the business is doing.

- how are we doing, and are we doing well or badly?

■ which problems should be looked at?

■ which is the best alternative for doing a job?

Nowadays Accounting is a part of the information system within an organisation . Accounting also exists as a service function, which ensures that the financial information that is presented meets the needs of the users of financial information and can the basis for decision-making regarding business. To achieve this, accountants must not only ensure that information is accurate, reliable and timely but also that it is relevant for the purpose for which it is being provided, consistent for comparability, and easily understood.

In order to be useful to the users of financial information, the accounting data from which it is prepared, together with its analysis and presentation, must be:

■ accurate – free from error of content or principle

■ reliable – representing the information that users believe it represents

■ timely – available in time to support decision-making

■ relevant – applicable to the purpose required, for example a decision regarding a future event or to support an explanation of what has already happened;

Financial accounting is primarily concerned with the first question answered by accounting information, the scorecard function. Taking a car-driving analogy, financial accounting makes greater use of the rear-view mirror than the windscreen; financial accounting is primarily concerned with historical information.

Financial accounting is the function responsible in general for the reporting of financial information to the owners of a business, and specifically for preparation of the periodic external reporting of financial information, statutorily required, for shareholders. It also provides similar information as required for Government and other interested third parties, such as potential investors, employees, lenders, suppliers, customers and financial analysts. Financial accounting is concerned with the three key financial statements: the balance sheet ; income statement ; statement of cash flows. It assists in ensuring that financial statements are included in published reports and accounts in a way that provides ease of analysis and interpretation of company performance. The role of financial accounting is therefore concerned with maintaining the scorecard for the entity. Financial accounting is concerned with the classification and recording of the monetary transactions of an entity in accordance with established concepts, principles, accounting standards and legal requirements and their presentation, by means of income statements, balance sheets and statements of cash flows, during and at the end of an accounting period . Furthermore, within most companies, the financial accounting role usually involves much more than the preparation of the three main financial statements. A great deal of analysis is required to support such statements and to prepare information both for internal management and in preparation for the annual audit by the company's external auditors . This includes sales analyses, bank reconciliations, and analyses of various types of expenditure. A typical finance department has the following additional functions within the financial accounting role: control of accounts payable to suppliers (the purchase ledger); control of accounts receivable from customers (the sales ledger), and credit control; control of cash (and possible wider treasury functions) including cash payments, cash receipts, managers' expenses, petty cash and banking relationships. Moreover, the financial accounting role also usually includes responsibility for payroll, whether processed internally or by an external agency. However, a number of companies elect to transfer the responsibility for payroll to the personnel, or human resources department, bringing with it the possibility of loss of internal control . The breadth of functions involved in financial accounting can require the processing of high volumes of data relating to purchase invoices, supplier payments, sales invoices, receipts from customers, other cash transactions, petty cash, employee expense claims and payroll data. Control and monitoring of these functions therefore additionally requires a large number of reports generated by the accounting systems, for example:

- analysis of trade receivables (debtors): those who owe money to the company – by age of debt

- analysis of trade payables (creditors): those to whom the company owes money – by age of invoice
    - sales analyses
    - cheque and automated payments
    - records of non-current assets
    - invoice list

All of these is impossible without accounting software applications. There also exist other Microsoft office programmes, such as Exel , Word and etc. Accountants may sometimes need to prepare tables in more detail, but they can be regarded as extra sources. However, the accounting programmes are orienting on getting the financial information in a special recommendable and generally accepted form, order,statement, arranged by date. Using them is more effective , it can be printed out quickly even the nearly all components of financial statements, rather than starting creating the new formats and documents and spend much time on doing this. By studying them, the students will know how to operate in a business environment, how to act effectively, how to get and provide others with useful information.

As we discussed above the main goal of financial information is to convey the company's current financial condition and results of past activities. This information helps the users to the goal and a plan of action, decision-making.

Accounting studying such issues as: the primary accounting field, the company has operations and cash registers to reflect the theme, which is necessary for the effective operation of any enterprise. It will examine the company's financial statements.

With the main course of study, students should be able to conduct business activities in the international accounting standards, according to a new Tax Code.

Financial Accounting plays a significant role but only studying its theory is not enough as a professional accountant must have a wide practical experience , that without accounting programmes nowadays is impossible.

Thus in the University Program Curriculum at first Financial Accounting course is studied and then Accounting Software Applications.

The Students already know the basic terminology, principles, also can prepare financial statements, know primary documents: cash receipt order, cash payment order, Account Statement about Bank transactions etc. We can say that the accounting program today is a lifeline for Accountancy. If you do not know of these programmes you can not work as an accountant.

An accounting software records and processes the accounting transactions of a business within its functional modules. Financial statements - of the balance sheet, profit and loss account can be easily prepared with an Accounting software.

The accounting software is all about the various functional modules that it has. Some of them are- General ledger which takes care of the company's financial dealings; Accounts Payable where the company enters its bills and pays the money it owes; Furthermore, Accounts Receivable where money received is entered.

Abroad there are a lot of top accounting software available in every category. So, it is not easy to select the best ones. Below are top five accounting software in every category.

A.Small business/personal accounting software:

1. ePeachtree (Best Software)
2. MYOB Plus for Windows (MYOB Software)
3. Peachtree Complete Accounting (Best Software)
4. QuickBooks Online (Intuit)
5. Small Business Manager (Microsoft)

B. Low-End Accounting Software:

1. BusinessVision 32 (Best Software)
2. MAS 90 & MAS 200 (Best Software)
3. QuickBooks Pro 2003 (Intuit)
4. ACCPAC Pro Series (ACCPAC International)
5. Vision Point 2000 (Best Software)

C. Middle-Market Accounting Software:

1. ACCPAC Advantage Series Corporate Edition (Best Software)
2. Great Plains (Microsoft) MAS 90 & MAS 200 (Best Software)
3. Navision (Microsoft)
4. SouthWare Excellence Series (SouthWare)
5. SYSPRO (SysproUSA)

D. High-end accounting ERP Market:

1. Axapta (Microsoft Software)
2. e-Business Suite (Oracle)
3. MAS 500 (Best Software).
4. Solomon (Microsoft)
5. ACCPAC Advantage Series Enterprise Edition (Best Software)

Peachtree is an accounting application for small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) made by Sage Software.

Navision software[1], also referred to as Microsoft Dynamics Nav, is also a Microsoft software program designed to work with small and medium-sized enterprises. Navision provides assistance in such enterprise-related areas as customer relationship management, manufacturing and finance.

Navision software offers tools that enable enterprises to manage finances[2].

QuickBooks[3] Simple Start is an easy accounting software solution for the business. It is best used for small businesses with few employees. It organizes your business's finances, tracks your sales and expenses, and provides help for you at tax time.

As we mentioned above In Georgia there are used the following accouting software applications: "Oris Accounting", " Super Fin", " 1C ", "Info", "Apex", "Fina" etc.

FINA Accounting is a complete accounting program that is linked to a store - warehouse module, and with it the whole system. All trade transac-

1 http://www.ehow.com/facts_7461222_navision-software_.html

2 http://www.ehow.com/facts_7461222_navision-software_html#ixzz2Xc9R6Nes

3 http://bizfinance.about.com/od/Finance-Accounting-Software/a/Top-Accounting-Software-For-Business.htm

tions (purchases, sales, return, transfer, etc.), which serves as operator of the shop - warehouse module are automatically reflected in accounting, which significantly simplifies the bookkeeping operations and eliminates mistakes.

Almost all of these programmes include the following accounting operations: open a new a company, operations about generally production, its receipt-registration in detail according to their type, size, date, their cost calculation, written-off, tangible and non-tangible assets accounting, depreciation by different methods, or according to groups given in tax Code , accrue salaries and disbursements, cash transactions between the bank and cash, conversion, even create different documents, print out financial statements etc.

Thus after completing financial accounting, tax code and accounting software courses, undergraduate students should be able to complete tasks solution, which includes both financial statements and tax returns preparation and submission, giving the proper advice to directors in the difficult financial situation, adjusting advice and tax laws for the benefit of the company.

In Summary, Financial Accounting, Financial statement play a key role in making a business-decision ; But this is achieved easily, effectively and quickly by Accounting Software Applications. However, the accounting programmes are orienting on getting the financial information in a special recommendable and generally accepted form, order, statement, arranged by date etc. All this enable students to get to know in detail to practical experience, real activities of the accountancy department , in order to become a professional and competitive in the labor market. By studying the accounting software applications, the students will know how to operate in a business environment, how to act effectively, how to get quickly and provide others with useful and necessary financial information.