

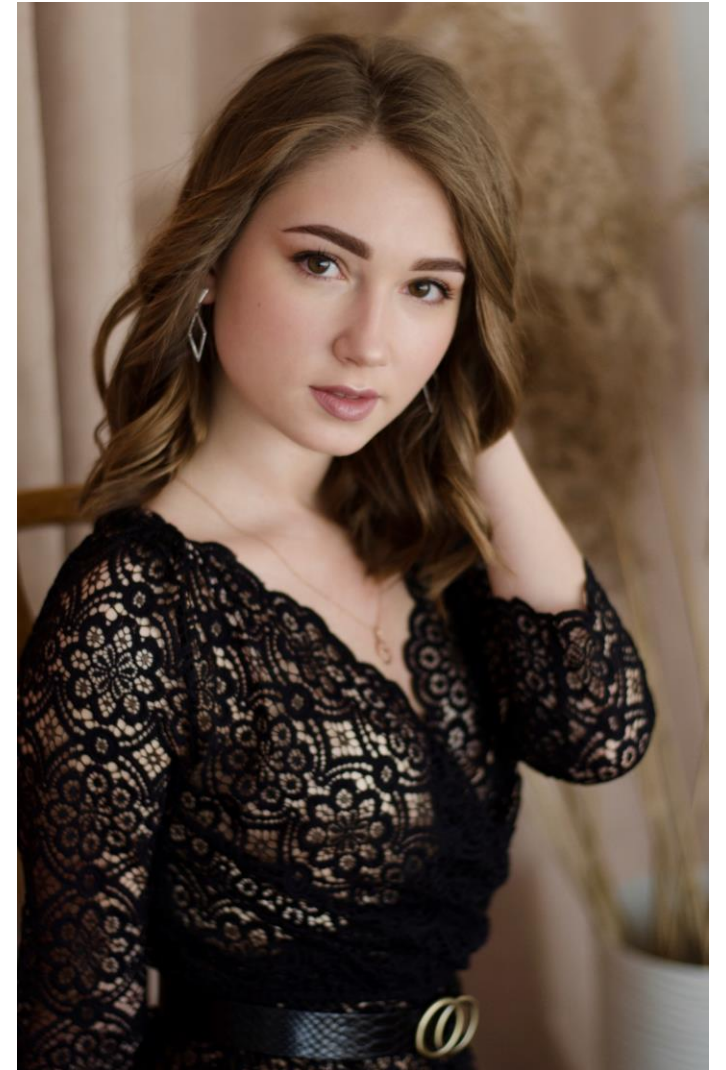


# VIRTUAL EXCHANGE STUDENT

Christopher Maynard & Kevin Pols

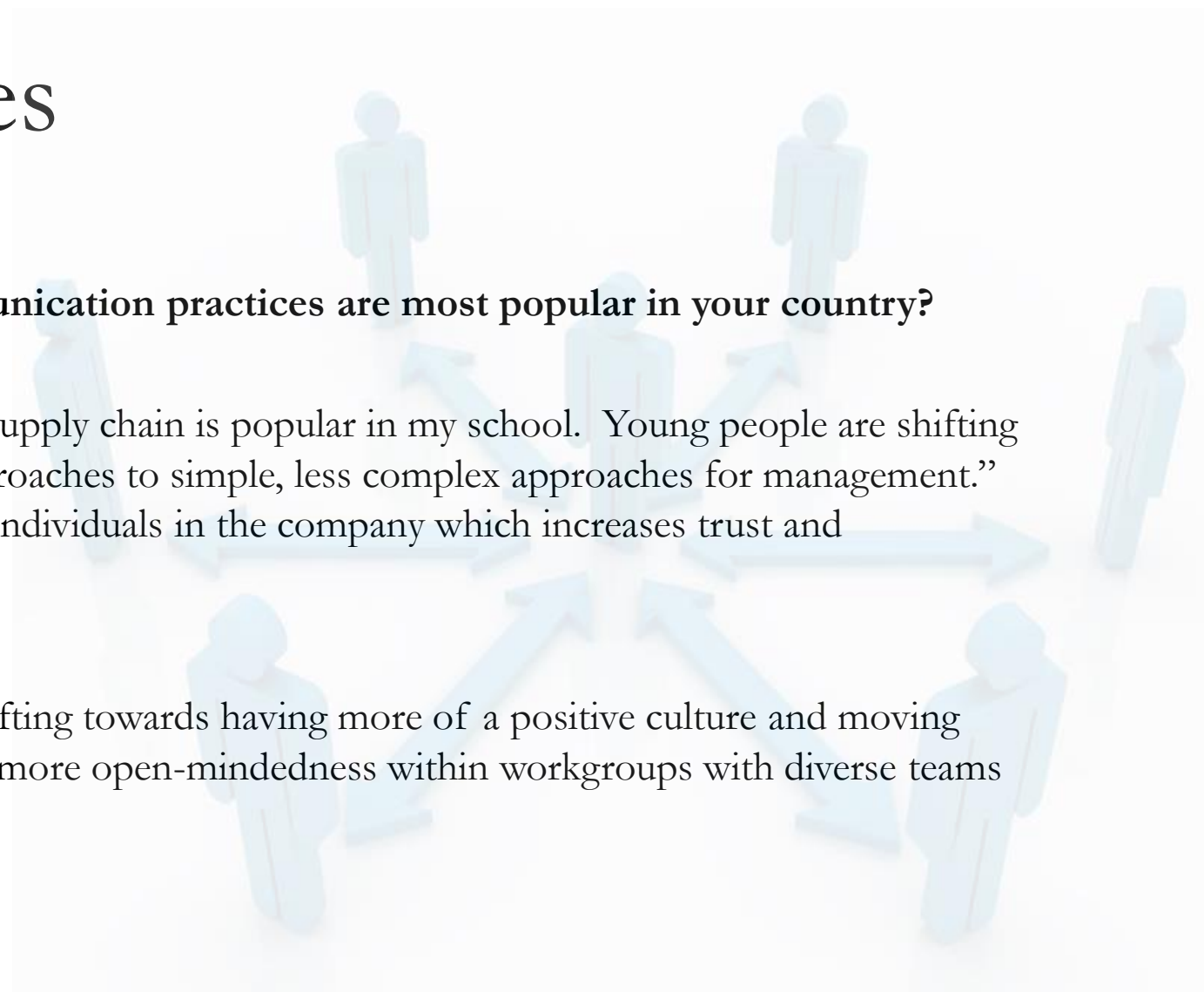
# Biography

- **Name:** Darina Fedorenchuk
- **University:** The International University of Logistics and Transport in Wroclaw (Poland)
- **Major:** Supply Chain Management (Transport)
- **Year:** Second Year
- **Country of Origin:** Ukraine
- **Hobbies:** Shopping and Traveling



# Business Practices

- **What leadership/management/communication practices are most popular in your country?**
- **Answer:** “The topic of management and supply chain is popular in my school. Young people are shifting from overly bureaucratic management approaches to simple, less complex approaches for management.” Leaders respect the contributions of each individual in the company which increases trust and meaningfulness within the organization.
- **Reply:** We stated how the US has been shifting towards having more of a positive culture and moving away from less laissez-faire leadership and more open-mindedness within workgroups with diverse teams for innovated ideas in the environment.



# Career Outlook

- **What careers in global supply chain management are most popular in your country?**
- **Answer:** “Warehousing sector and the autonomous sector will eventually increase demand for skilled workers.” Poland is “straining” towards U.S. level of technological innovations. We believe this is where jobs will be needed, along with traditional supply chain occupations as well.
- **Reply:** We discussed the increasing consumer demand for wanting goods in the right way, time, cost, and place. Since supply chains are moving faster than ever, there will be an increase in demand for jobs in order to make sure the networks are stable. We also commented on technological advancements and how jobs will soon be reallocated to different sectors.



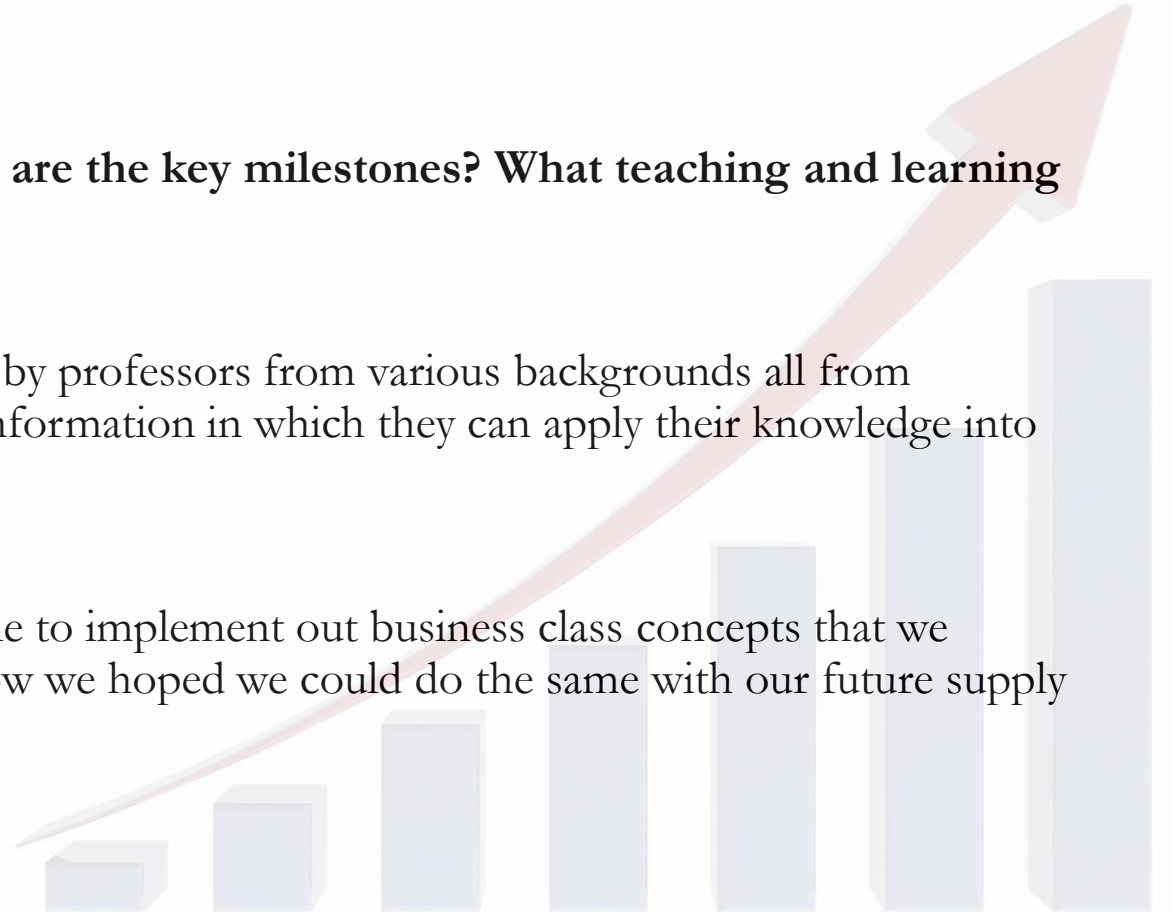


# Leadership Skills

- **Are there any leadership skills that are important for the logistics profession?**
- **Answer:** Darnia stated how leaders are now more than ever listening to individuals in the workforce and actually working with the employees with brainstorming and recommendations. Important skills should be organization, expertise in the area, practical skills. Darnia also stated how flexibility and multitasking will be a crucial skill in employee performance.
- **Reply:** We stated how we believe leaders should have an overall grasp on all the duties that they are in charge of to have a more collective mindset in operations. Additionally, since the supply chain is about efficiency and innovation, schools will need to meet skilled worker demand and develop a new curriculum that focuses more on information system classes as well as analytical skills.

# Key Milestones

- **Describe your educational experience. What are the key milestones? What teaching and learning methods are employed?**
- **Answer:** Darina stated her curriculum is taught by professors from various backgrounds all from different countries. Her classes teach practical information in which they can apply their knowledge into everyday life.
- **Reply:** Kevin and I stated how we both were able to implement our business class concepts that we learned in class into our jobs at the bank, and how we hoped we could do the same with our future supply chain occupations.





# Globalization and Trade

- **What attitudes exist in your country regarding globalization and trade?**
- **Answer:** Darnia stated how both Poland and Ukraine's globalization is helping their economies, and attracting more people from around the world for jobs. Also, Darnia has seen an increase in websites in which individuals share their business strategies ideas that can be implemented into businesses. Lastly, she stated how taxes were high but not as high as the U.S. so taxes are really not an issue for their supply networks. All in all Poland and Ukraine seem positive about the prospects that globalization can bring and how it can help surge the economy.
- **Reply:** Kevin and I mentioned President Trump's Tariffs on China. We explained how the tariffs are supposed to make trade more “fair” with China, however, the externalities of this deal could mean huge losses in the capital for both US producers and consumers.

# Technological Advancements

- **How is technology impacting the profession and global supply chain industry in your country?**
- **Answer:** Darina stated that technology impacts supply chain in a very positive way and she believes Poland is following this trend. She states that companies investing in this technology will help save costs for companies.
- **Reply:** Both of us stated that companies in the United States are always trying to stay current with technology especially in the supply chain sector. We explained how automation is starting to be tested out and one day there could be delivery trucks with no human driving. Chris explained the some of the barriers of this technology which is state regulations, safety, security issues.



# Corporate Culture

- **What attitudes exist in your country regarding diversity in the corporate environment?**
- **Answer:** Darina explained that companies in Poland are very welcoming of other people from different cultures and backgrounds. This will help companies expand with new ideas because of the different characteristics each person brings from a different country. She believes that having a diverse employee base helps the customers feel satisfied with that company. For example, Darina works in a company that is culturally diverse. A customer called the customer service number and they could not understand what that customer was saying. They had an employee who spoke the same language as the customer and the customer was happy that someone was able to understand her.
- **Answer:** We stated that companies in the United States accept people from cultures and backgrounds also. We explained to that laws exist to protect people from discrimination by employers such as race and color. It is starting to become more common for the corporate environment in today's economy to be diverse with the employees they hire.

# Sustainability

- **Describe the approach taken by your government and country toward sustainability in the supply chain and/or manufacturing in general?**
- **Answer:** She explained that companies in Poland are working towards sustainability and it is becoming a part of their operations. In the next year, grocery stores will either eliminate plastic bags or start charging the consumer to use them. Clothing companies in Poland are starting to accept clothing that is no longer in use and will reuse the material to make new clothing.
- **Reply:** Kevin explained to Darina that plastic bags in Canada cost five cents each at the grocery store. This came into place back in 2011 since the Canadian government wanted to cut down the plastic waste. It forces people to bring re-usable bags when grocery shopping.

# Misconceptions



- **Are there any misconceptions about your country that you can clarify?**
- **Answer:** Darina stated in her opinion that there are no misconceptions that she wanted to clarify. She believes Poland is trying to become like the United States in the way it operates and runs its economy. The United States to her is an excellent example of how a country should be and Poland would benefit learning from the US.
- **Reply:** We explained to Darina that the United States has many great advantages that it has to offer such as many great universities that preparing people for the real world of work. If there is anything that needs to be fixed, government leaders are always looking for a solution to that problem and ensuring it benefits all the people living in this country.

# Miscellaneous

- **What cultural/entertainment/sporting activities are most popular in your country and city?**
- **Answer:** Sports and fitness are very popular in Poland such as going to the gym. The cost of a gym membership is very inexpensive which allows students to afford a membership and live a healthy lifestyle while being a student. She explained that public transportation is very popular in Poland and does not a big expense. Car ownership is not common in Poland because fuel costs are high in Poland.
- **Reply:** Chris explained to Darina that car ownership is very popular in the United States. Public transit is mostly in places like New York but we explained to her that most people in Michigan rely on a car to get around. We also explained to her that the cost of fitness can be get quite expensive because the average cost of a gym membership can be around \$600 per year.



- **Christopher Maynard**
- **Wayne State University**
- **Mike Ilitch School of Business**
- **2771 Woodward Ave.**
- **Detroit, MI 48201**
- **Email: Fa9132@wayne.edu**



- **Kevin Pols**
- **Wayne State University**
- **Mike Ilitch School of Business**
- **2771 Woodward Ave.**
- **Detroit, MI 48201**
- **Email: gl1315@wayne.edu**