

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI NAȚIONALE



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**UNIVERSITATEA TEHNICĂ**  
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**BAIA MARE NORTHERN UNIVERSITY CENTRE**

**Faculty of Letters**

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**HABILITATION THESIS**

**Romanian Literature – Research Trends**

**2013**

## ABSTRACT

The application for the Habilitation Thesis is grounded on both my academic career evolution and my scientific contributions, by reference works in the field of Romanian literature and the minorities' cultural history. My doctoral thesis, „The Pamphlet as Literature”, submitted in the year 1997 at the Faculty of Letters at the „Babes-Bolyai” University of Cluj, under the coordination of Professor Ion Vlad, PhD, was considered and is still believed to be a scientifically and academically pioneering work in Romania. It truly was a first analytical and synthetic approach of this genre situated at the confluence between literature, rhetorics and media publications. The angle of approach was a predominantly theoretical one, aiming at the concept anatomy and morphology and setting the meeting points with literature, in order to attempt to eventually provide an exhaustive definition of pamphlet. The paper belongs to the literary, with analytical references to Romanian authors from this field. The doctoral period (internship), between 1992 – 1997, requested five years of research, documentation and writing, considering that the Romanian specialty literature did not at that time include any theoretical bibliography relating to this genre of writing, an „intruder” in the literary space. Due to the interest for the new topic and its importance for the Romanian bibliography, my doctoral paper was published by the prestigious „Universitas” collection of the Minerva Publishing House in the year 1999, entitled „The Pamphlet as a Literary Discourse”. This edition also benefited from two external reviews, by famous literary theory critics, the first one written by Marc Angenot, of the McGill University, Canada, and the second written by Alexandru George. The study was shaped as a hermeneutical interdisciplinary approach between oratorical art, literary theory and literature itself as fiction.

With the theoretical openness, provided by the doctoral paper, my career evolution has been made up of two major directions, on the one hand the study of Romanian literature, especially of the Great Classics Period, and of contemporary literature, by publishing literary studies of interest for the academic environment, and

on the other, the study of cultural interference studies, aimed at minority communities, namely the Romanian community from Hungary.

Concerning the first field of study, my research was aimed at the Great Classics moment, seen as an act to overcome the 19th century esthetic dogma and as a moment of modern renewal of literary discourse, by what I proposed as an assumption, the polymorphism of literary works, fed up by a hybridization of literary forms and a mix of genres. I developed these assumptions in the volumes *Lecturi neconvenționale* (*Unconventional Readings*, 2003), *Eminescu. Polimorfismul operei* (*Eminescu. The Polymorphism of his Work*, 2012), *Eminescu. Note de curs* (*Eminescu, Course Notes*, 2013). Considering the fact that I am in charge of the Great Classics and, respectively, Eminescu and eminescology courses, my research aims at the innovations these writers have brought to literature and which hit the discourse modernity in conception, structure and instruments. Since the year 1992, when the Chair of Romanian Language and Literature was created at the Faculty of Letters and Sciences of Baia Mare, I have been constantly teaching the Great Classics course and the Eminescu special course, where I have developed many of the research ideas and innovations brought along by writers belonging to this period and I have suggested non-canonical lectures (readings) on Eminescu's modernism.

Another important segment of my research activity is achieving monographic studies in an interpretative critical approach, with a statute of novelty monographies. It is both a topic monography, such as love in Marin Preda's poetry, a first approach of this kind in our country, in the volume *Marin Preda Fascinația iubirii* (Marin Preda and the Fascination of Love, 1996). I have developed the love relevant aspects and anatomy, under different love relations (marital / couple, extra-marital, family), but I am also considering my research on major dimensions of space and time for love, having an effect on the narration and style. It is also a novelty to work on contemporary writers, both an important contribution to diversifying Romanian literary landscape, thus providing a full picture of their activity as writers. I am speaking about the monographies *Romulus Guga. Polifonia unei voci* (Romulus Guga a Voice Polyphony, 1997) and *Laurențiu Fulga* (2001), still the first monographies about these contemporary writers, which are also the first critical references for further research

and developments.

Speaking of the cultural interference studies, the second area of interest in my research and teaching activity, I have brought along to the space of the Romanian culture and literature the contribution of Romanian journalists and authors from Hungary, by achieving cultural synthesis works. The first study in this field was achieved by a research grant the Romanians' Cultural Union from Hungary awarded me and finished in the year 2006 by the publication of the volume *Românii din Ungaria, I. Presa* (Romanians from Hungary, I. The Press, 1951-2005). The second volume of this series included the Romanians' literature from the neighbouring country, granted by CNCIS in the year 2009, *Literatura românilor din Ungaria* (The Literature of Romanians from Hungary, 1950-2008). Both studies have become reference works in Hungary for Romanian and Hungarian scholars and the students of the Romanian departments in Budapest, Szeged and Szarvas. In 2008 I concluded another research agreement with Nicolae Balcescu High School of Gyula, Hungary, grant which made it possible to finish the *Monografia Școlii românești din Gyula* (*The Monography of the Romanian School from Gyula*), in the year 2010. during my internship as a Romanian lecturer in Hungary, I was engaged in baccalaureate commissions for Romanian language teaching departments and I worked as teaching material reviewer, also working on a bilingual Romanian – Hungarian dictionary published by the Hungarian Academy Printing House in Budapest, 2004.

In terms of professional career evolution and development, I aim at accomplishing two directions: 1. Romanian literary theory and literature, the Great Classics, by a development of ideas advanced in the other studies I published, with respect to Caragiale and Creanga comic forms; 2. Minorities' cultural studies, by a mirroring of minority literature and majority literature. Among my future projects one may include a vast research on the history of Romanian pamphlet, by making up an anthology of pamphlet as literary discourse, as well as a monographic study on Ioan Slavici short novels, namely narrative morphology. A long-term project is making up a term-concept dictionary used in the critic about Eminescu, grounded on conceptual structures we have advanced in our most recent book.