

CURRICULUM VITAE

Laura VISU-PETRA
Senior Lecturer

Developmental Psychology Lab
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Research interests

My work investigates the typical and atypical development of *executive functions* (with a focus on working memory), relevant for developing training programs and for improving academic performance. My current research targets executive functioning and *emotion-cognition interactions in high-anxious children* (preschoolers and early school age). Another current research interest relates to the emergence and development of *deceptive behavior* in relation with the child's socio-cognitive (theory of mind, executive functions) and problematic behavior.

General domain: Developmental science

Focus on:

- › Individual differences and developmental psychopathology
- › Typical and atypical executive functioning development (focus on updating)
- › Cognitive functioning in high-trait anxiety
- › Executive functions and deception skills
- › Developmental cognitive neuropsychology

Positions

2009 – present: **Lecturer** (Atypical developmental profiles, Child psychology in a legal context – undergraduate level; Particular aspects in child and adolescent development; The assessment of cognitive and socio-emotional functioning in children and adolescents – Master level) – Department of Psychology, Babeş-Bolyai University

2006 – 2009 : **Assistant Professor**, Department of Psychology, Babeş-Bolyai University

2007 – present: **Main investigator**, Developmental Psychology Lab
(<http://www.devpsychology.ro/en/>)

2003 – present: **Tutoring** for the long-distance courses of Atypical Developmental Profiles and Developmental Psychology.

Education

- 2008: PhD in Psychology (Summa cum Laude), Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. *Thesis title:* The Multidimensional Development of Executive Functioning: A Neuropsychological Approach; *Supervisor:* Prof. Mircea Miclea. External committee: Prof. Michael Eysenck, Royal Holloway University of London; Prof. Helen Tager-Flusberg, Boston University, School of Medicine; Prof. Nelson Cowan, University of Missouri-Columbia.
- 2004: M. A. in "Psychological Counseling and Psychotherapy", Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca
- 2003: B. Sc., Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca

Professional Membership

- 2007 -Developmental Psychology Lab, Department of Psychology (Founding member, Main investigator)
- 2012 - Society for Applied Research into Memory and Cognition (SARMAC)
- 2010 - European Association of Developmental Psychology (EADP, Member, Romanian representative in the Early Researchers Union)
- 2009 - Romanian Association of Cognitive Science (Vicepresident)
- 2011 - Stress and Anxiety Research Society (STAR)
- 2008 - International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development (Member)
- 2006 - Society for Research in Child Development (member)
- 2004 -Federation of European Neurosciences (FENS), International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) (Affiliated Member via SNN)

Advanced Professional Training

- 2010-2012: Postdoctoral training, Babeş-Bolyai University, funded by the National University Research Council, PD 427/2010-2012.
- 2008: *John Merck Summer Institute on the Biology of Developmental Disorders*, organized by the Sackler Institute for Developmental Psychobiology & Weill-Cornell Medical College, Cornell University, USA
- 2008: *Training Workshop on the Development of Executive Functions*. St. Catherine's College, Oxford, UK.
- 2008: *Advanced Piaget Course: Cognitive Development: Mechanisms and Constraints*, Geneva

- 2006: PENS/Hertie Winter School: *Brain Basis of Social Interaction: From Concepts to Imaging*, Kitzbühel, Austria.
- 2005: PhD-stage mobility at the Laboratory of Developmental Psychology, Università degli Studi di Torino, SOCRATES / Erasmus scholarship.
- 2005: *Development and Plasticity of the Human Cerebral Cortex*, IBRO/FENS and the Croatian Institute for Brain Research, Zadar/Zagreb, Croatia.
- 2004: *Cognitive Neuroscience Summer School on Working Memory*, Bled, Slovenia.
- 2003 – 2005: Clinical training courses (level I: Primary, II: Advanced and III: Associate Practitioner) specialized in “Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (REBT)”

Editorial Activity

- Member of the Editorial Board of *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An interdisciplinary journal*, the journal of The Romanian Association of Cognitive Sciences (since 2005)
- Member of the Editorial Board of *Journal of Educational and Developmental Psychology*, Canadian Center of Science and Education (since 2012).
- Member of the Editorial Board of *Psychology in Russia: State of the Art*, the journal of the Russian Psychological Society (since 2013).
- Member of the Scientific Board of the *International Journal of Developmental Science*, Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft AKA, Heidelberg.
- Reviewer for *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, Sage; *Emotion*, APA; *Thinking and Reasoning*, Taylor & Francis Group; *Personality and Individual Differences*, Elsevier; *Journal of Neurodevelopmental Disorders*, Wiley-Blackwell; *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, Elsevier.

Other Professional Activities

- Certified as Educational Psychologist and as a Psychotherapist (since 2006) by the Romanian College of Psychologists
- Certified as Counselor for Professional Orientation by the Romanian Ministry of Work and Social Protection (The National Council of Professional Training of Adults, CNFPA)

Research funding

- 2012-2015: Human Resources Program - Projects for Young Research Teams (grant director), Title: *The connected lie: Longitudinal links between early deception skills, sociocognitive development and problematic behaviors in young children*, Grant PNII-RU-TE-2012-3-0323, Financed by UEFISCDI, Funding: 645165 lei (~149000 Euros)
- 2012: Ideas Project, Exploratory Workshop (grant director, co-organizer dr. Julie Hadwin, University of Southampton), Title: *Attention and executive functioning in high-trait anxiety: Implications for cognitive and academic performance* (<http://anxcoged.psychology.ro>). Grant PN-II-ID-WE-2012-4-068, Financed by UEFISCDI, Funding: 29282 lei (~6500 Euros).
- 2012-2015: Ideas Project, type Complex Exploratory Research Projects (Team coordinator, PI: Prof. Colin MacLeod & dr. Andrei C. Miu), Title: *Genetic and environmental factors in emotion regulation development during adolescence: Implications for anxiety disorders and depression*, Grant PNII-ID-PCCE-2011-2-0045, Financed by UEFISCDI, Funding (total): 6.085.043 lei (~1.300.000 Euros)
- 2012-2013: International research grant (director of the Romanian team), *Symbolic mediation, self-control and anxiety: Research methods development and adaptation on Russian and Romanian sample of preschool children and elementary school children*, Russian fund of humanities research, Moscow State University, Funding: 10000 USD.
- 2010-2012: National Research Council Post-doctoral grant (director). Working memory development in relation to executive functions and school performance, CNCSIS PNII-427/2010, Funding: 335000 lei (~80000 Euros).
- 2006-2008 Grant CNCSIS, TD (grant director) The neuropsychological assessment of working memory in atypical development: Implications for the analysis of cognitive-behavioral profiles, Funding: ~100000lei (~23000 Euros)
- 2009-2011: Grant POSDRU 7859 (consultant), Modernizing and adapting preschool education in order to prevent early school leaving.
- 2009-: Grant CNCSIS, Ideas (team member), Critical aspects in the computer-mediated psychotherapy of anxiety disorders, Director dr. Mircea Miclea, no. 2440.
- 2008 : Expert evaluator for the Bulgarian National Science Fund, program Stimulating Research & Development in Universities.
- 2006-2008 (consulting team member): Cognitive and language development in children at neurodevelopmental risk, part of *Neurobiological foundations of cognitive, mental and neurological disorders*, Program coordinated by Prof. Ivica Kostovic, Croatian Institute for Brain Research.
- 2006-2008 Grant CEEEX, ET (team member): Critical periods in the development of executive functions. Director dr. Oana Benga, no. 131.

- 2006-2008: Grant CEEEX (team member). The neurocognitive and developmental analysis of anxiety. Applications in optimizing the diagnosis and psychotherapy methods. Director: dr. Mircea Miclea / code MEC 3543, Module 1
- 2006: Grant CEEEX, ET (team member): Developmental trajectories and neurobiological correlates of cognitive-emotional processes in typical and atypical populations, Director: dr. Oana Benga. no. 54.
- 2004: Grant CNCSIS (team member). Developing the research infrastructure of the cognitive neuroscience laboratory of the Center for applied cognitive psychology. Director: dr. Mircea Miclea, no. 62
- 2004 - 2007: Executive coordinator of the project of adapting for the Romanian population NEPSY: A Developmental Neuropsychological Assessment
- 2002- : Participating at the research project "The Development of Autobiographical Memory", led by dr. Oana Benga, project financed as part of the McDonnell Foundation Initiative for the Development of Psychology in Romania.

Fellowships and awards

- 2012: Early Career Award, Stress and Anxiety Research Society (http://www.star-society.org/html/star_awards.html)
- 2011: Scholarship (1000\$) from the Society for Research in Child Development (USA) for attending the Biennial Meeting in Canada.
- 2009 - 2010: Biographic inclusion in Marquis *Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare*, 7th edition.
- 2008: Fellow of the Sackler Institute for Developmental Psychobiology - *John Merck Fund Summer Institute on the Biology of Developmental Disorders*, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, Ithaca, SUA.
- 2006: Fellow of Program of European Neuroscience (PENS) & Hertie for the Winter School: "Brain Basis of Social Interaction: From Concepts to Imaging", Kitzbühel, Austria.
- 2005: Fellow of the International Brain Research Organization and Federation of European Neuroscience Society for the summer school "Development and Plasticity of the Human Cerebral Cortex", Croatian Institute for Brain Research, Zadar/Zagreb, Croatia.
- 2005: SOCRATES / Erasmus scholarship - PhD-stage mobility at the Laboratory of Developmental Psychology, Università degli Studi di Torino.
- 2004: Fellow of the Federation of European Neuroscience Society for the Cognitive Neuroscience Summer School on Working Memory, Bled, Slovenia
- 2003: "Alexandru Roșca" Scientific Award from the Institute for Social and Humanistic Research, Romanian Academy, Cluj, Romania.

2002: Award for Contribution at the University Reforming Process, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania.

2001: Fellow of the Central and Eastern European Center of Cognitive Science at the 8th Summer School of Cognitive Science, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Publications

I. Scientific articles

1. Web of Science indexed (ISI) journal articles:

Visu-Petra, G., Varga, M., Miclea, M., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2013). When interference helps: increasing executive load to facilitate deception detection in the concealed information test. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 4: 146. DOI: 10.3389/fpsyg.2013.00146

Visu-Petra, G., Miclea, M., Buş, I., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2012). Detecting concealed information: The role of individual differences in executive functions and social desirability. *Psychology, Crime and Law*, (ahead-of-print), 1-7. DOI: 10.1080/1068316X.2012.736509

Visu-Petra, L., Miclea, M., & Visu-Petra, G. (2012). Individual differences in anxiety and executive functioning: A multidimensional view. *International Journal of Psychology*, (ahead-of-print), 1-11. DOI: 10.1080/00207594.2012.656132

Visu-Petra, G., Miclea, M., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2012). Reaction Time-based Detection of Concealed Information in Relation to Individual Differences in Executive Functioning. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 26(3), 342-351. DOI: 10.1002/acp.1827

Cheie, L. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2012). Relating individual differences in trait-anxiety to memory functioning in young children: An investigation using task-irrelevant emotional stimuli. *Journal of Individual Differences*, 33(2), 109-118.

Cheie, L., **Visu-Petra, L.**, & Miclea, M. (2012). Trait-anxiety, visual search and memory for facial identities in preschoolers: An investigation using task-irrelevant emotional information. *Procedia - Social and Behavioural Sciences*, 33, 622-626. DOI: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.01.196.

Visu-Petra, L., Cheie, L., Benga, O., & Miclea, M. (2012). The structure of executive functions in preschoolers: an investigation using the NEPSY Battery. *Procedia - Social and Behavioural Sciences*, 33, 627-631. DOI: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.01.197.

Visu-Petra, L., Cheie, L., Benga, O., & Miclea, M. (2011). Cognitive control goes to school: The impact of executive functions on academic performance. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 11, 240 - 244

Visu-Petra, L., Cheie, L., Benga, O., Alloway, T. P. (2011). Effects of trait anxiety on memory storage and updating in young children. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 35(1) 38-47.

Visu-Petra, L., Ţincaş, I, Cheie, L., & Benga, O. (2010). Anxiety and visual-spatial memory updating in young children: An investigation using emotional facial

expressions. *Cognition & Emotion* [Emotional states, attention, and working memory], edited by N. Derakshan, M.W. Eysenck, 24 (2), 223-240.

Visu-Petra, L., Miclea, M., Cheie, L., & Benga, O. (2009). Processing efficiency in preschoolers' memory span: A longitudinal investigation of individual differences related to age and anxiety. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 103*(1), 30-48.

Visu-Petra, L., Benga, O., Tincas, I. & Miclea, M. (2007). Visual-spatial processing in children and adolescents with Down's syndrome: A computerized assessment of memory skills. *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research, 51*(12), 942-952.

Ciairano, S., **Visu-Petra, L.,** & Settani, M. (2007). Executive inhibitory control and cooperative behavior during early school years: a follow-up study. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology, 35*(3), 335-345.

2. Other peer-reviewed journal articles

Sabou, A., Moldovan, M., Cosma, A., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2012). Working memory training in typical and atypical development: Revisiting the evidence. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 16*(1), 1-47.

Benga, O., Țincaș, I. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2010). Investigating the structure of anxiety symptoms among Romanian preschoolers using the Spence Preschool Anxiety Scales. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 14*, 159-182.

Visu-Petra, L., Cheie, L., & Benga, O. (2008). Short-term memory performance and metamemory judgments in preschool and early school-age children: A quantitative and qualitative analysis. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 12*(1), 71-101.

Visu-Petra, L., Benga, O. & Miclea, M. (2007). Dimensions of attention and executive functioning in 5- to 12-years-old children: Neuropsychological assessment with the NEPSY battery. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 11*(3), 539-553.

Boroș, S., **Visu-Petra, L.,** & Cheie, L. (2007), A Q-Sort analysis investigating the social perception of a chronic disease: Between sympathy and stigma *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 11*(2), 437-459.

Visu-Petra, L., Ciairano, S., Miclea, M. (2006). Neurocognitive correlates of child anxiety: A review of working memory research. *Cognitie, Creier, Comportament / Cognition, Brain, Behavior, 4*, 517-541.

Benga, O. & **Petra, L.** (2005). Social cognition and executive functioning: A constructivist developmental approach. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 2*, 301-317.

Petra, L. (2004). The dynamic systems approach: theoretical and therapeutic implications for the study of atypical developmental trajectories. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal, 3-4*, 381-397.

- Anton, R., Bian, A., Cristea, I., **Petra, L.**, & Benga, O. (2004). Autobiographical memory. Content and emotion regarding the earliest recollection (In Romanian). *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 3-4, 279-301.
- Petra, L.** (2004). A critical perspective upon neuropsychology: Applications and implications for the study of atypical development (In Romanian). *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 8(1), 1-19.
- Benga, O., & **Petra, L.** (2002). Integrating biological constraints and socialization: A developmental perspective upon autobiographical memory. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 6(2), 107-155.
- Benga, O., **Visu-Petra, L.**, Palade, S., & Benga, I. (2007). Profiluri neurocognitive CANTAB – studiu comparativ al unor populații pediatrice. (in Romanian) *Revista Română de Sănătate Mintală*, 15(1), 10-14.
- Petra, L.**, & Benga, O., (2004). Methodological Controversies In The Neuropsychological Assessment Of Atypical Development. Implications For The Study Of Autism. Part I: The Developmental Neuropsychological Assessment Method: Flaws And Assets, *Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai: Psychologia-Paedagogia*, 1, 93-107.

Other articles:

- Petra, L.** (2004). The contribution of cognitive-behavioral techniques to the management of epilepsy-related problems. (in Romanian). *The Journal of The Romanian Society of Neurology and Child Psychiatry*, 7(1), 33-42.
- Petra, L.**, & Benga, O. (2003). Neuropsychological assessment of children with epilepsy. (in Romanian) *The Journal of The Romanian Society of Neurology and Child Psychiatry*, Vol. 6(2), 70-79.

3. Proceedings

- Mocan, O., Stanciu, O., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2012). Attentional set-shifting in children: Effects of individual differences in anxiety and attentional control. *International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice*, 16, 38-39.
- Cheie, L. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2012). Relating individual differences in trait-anxiety to children's memory for emotional information: An investigation using illustrated emotional stories. *International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice*, 16, 20-20.
- Visu-Petra, L.**, Cheie, L., & Benga, O. (2010) Short-term and long-term remembering in children with high trait anxiety: An investigation using emotional stimuli, 'Symposia (In alphabetical order by convenor)', *Psychology & Health*, 25(6), 101-131, DOI: 10.1080/08870446.2010.502660.
- Cheie, L., **Visu-Petra, L.**, & Miclea, M. (2010). The role of trait anxiety and cue salience on young children's prospective memory performance. *Psychology & Health*, 25(6), 137-376, DOI: 10.1080/08870446.2010.502762.

II. Books and invited chapters

- Visu-Petra, L.,** Cheie, L., & Mocan, O. (in press). Executive functioning in high-trait anxious children: A cognitive vulnerability factor? In Moore, K., Kaniasty, K., & Buchwald, P. (Eds.) *Stress and Anxiety. Application to Economic Hardship, Occupational Demands and Developmental Challenges*, Berlin: Logos Verlag.
- Visu-Petra, L.,** Cheie, L., & Miu, A. C. (2012). Working Memory and Anxiety: Exploring the Interplay of Individual Differences across Development. In Alloway, T. P. & Alloway, R. G. (Eds) *Working Memory: The New Intelligence* (pp. 187-216). Frontiers in Cognitive Psychology series; Series Editors: Nelson Cowan and David Balota, New-York: Psychology Press.
- Visu-Petra, L. &** Cheie, L. (2012) *Dezvoltarea memoriei de lucru. Exerciții pentru preșcolari și școlari*. [Working memory development. Activities for preschoolers and school-age children]. Romanian Association of Cognitive Science Publishing House, Cluj-Napoca.
- Miu, A. C. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2011). Computer-assisted evaluation of attentional biases in anxiety. In *The Computer-Mediated Therapy of Anxiety*. (pp.28-46). Romanian Association of Cognitive Science Publishing House, Cluj-Napoca.
- Miu, A. C., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2009). Anxiety disorders in children and adults: A cognitive, neurophysiological and genetic characterization. In R. Carlstedt (Ed.), *Handbook of Integrative Clinical Psychology, Psychiatry, and Behavioral Medicine: Perspectives, Practices, and Research*. (pp. 309-351). New York: Springer.
- Visu-Petra, L.** (2008). *The Multidimensional Development of Executive Functioning: A Neuropsychological Approach*. ASCR, Cluj-Napoca.
- Visu-Petra, L. &** Benga, O. (Eds.) (2007). *Developmental Cognitive Neuropsychology*. Special volume of *Cognition, Brain, Behavior*, Romanian Association of Cognitive Science Publishing House.
- Visu-Petra, L. &** Benga, O. (2007). Particular aspects in the executive functioning of atypical developmental profiles revealed by the neuropsychological assessment of working memory. In M. Aniței, M. Popa, C.L. Mincu și A.M. Pap (Eds.) *Centenary of Psychology at the University of Bucharest* (pp. 1075-1085), 26-29 October 2006, Ed. Univ. București, București.
- Petra, L.,** Benga, O. & Țincaș, I. (2005). A dynamic approach to the co-construction of autobiographical memory: Insights from dyadic conversations about the past. *Proceedings of the CogSci 2005, XXVII Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Bruno G. Bara, Lawrence Barsalou, & Monica Bucciarelli (Eds.), Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc., New Jersey, 1732-1738.
- Benga, O., **Petra, L.** & Miu, A. C. (2005). Electrophysiological correlates of typical and atypical development. The developmental cognitive neuroscience perspective.(In Romanian). In L. Zagrean (Ed.), *Clinical Neuroelectrophysiology* (In Romanian), Bucuresti: Editura Universitara "Carol Davila", 381-418.

- Petra, L.** (2005). Aspects related to memory functioning, attention and executive functioning revealed by the neuropsychological assessment of children with epilepsy. *Studies in social sciences of the Romanian Academy, Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca, Vol. 13*, 109-117.
- Benga, O. (Ed.), Boroș, S., **Petra, L.**, Pop, M., Bogdan, R. (co-authors). (2004). *Therapeutic Games for Children*, 2nd revised Edition (In Romanian), ASCR, Cluj-Napoca.
- Petra, L.** (2004). The neuropsychological assessment of visuospatial and visuocognitive abilities in epileptic children (In Romanian), *Studies in social sciences of the Romanian Academy, Vol. 12*, Editura Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca.
- Benga, O., **Petra, L.** (2003). The emergence of autobiographical memory at the interplay of biological factors and socialization (In Romanian), *Studies in social sciences of the Romanian Academy, Vol. 11*, Editura Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca.

III. Translations

- Visu-Petra, L.** (coord.) Irina Pitica, Georgiana Susa (2009). *Tratamentul anxietății la copii și adolescenți : O abordare fundamentată științific*, Editura ASCR, Cluj-Napoca (Translated from "Treating anxious children and adolescents: An evidence-based approach"; Rapee, Wignall, Hudson, Schniering; 2000, New-Harbing, USA).
- Visu-Petra, L.** & Benga, O. (2007). *Cum sa va ajutati copilul cu probleme de anxietate: Un ghid pas-cu-pas pentru parinti*, Editura ASCR, Cluj-Napoca (Translated from "Helping your anxious child: A step-by-step guide for parents"; Rapee, Spence, Cobham, & Wignall, 2000, New-Harbing, USA).
- Translating and adapting the Automated Working Memory Assessment (AWMA, Alloway, 2007), Copyright © 2007 by Pearson Assessment
- Member of the team that translated and adapted the child version of the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV (*KID-SCID*)
- David, D., Opre, A., & **Petra, L.** (2003). *Povesti rationale pentru copii (Rational Stories for Children)*. ASCR: Cluj-Napoca, Translated from Waters, V. (1980). AEI: New-York.
- Petra, L.**, & Porumb, M. (2005). Translation and adaptation of "Administering NEPSY: A Developmental Neuropsychological Assessment", Subtest Administration, Ed. ASCR, Cluj-Napoca

International Lectures and Conferences (selection):

- Visu-Petra, L.** (keynote for receiving the Early Career Award, 2012). Executive functioning in high-trait anxiety: An early cognitive vulnerability factor? Stress and Anxiety Research annual conference, Palma de Majorca, Spain.
- Visu-Petra, L.,** Cheie, L., & Benga, O. (2011). Remembering Emotional Information in High-anxious Preschoolers: A Multimodal Investigation. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting*, Quebec, Canada.
- Cheie, L., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2010). Trait anxiety in young children: effects on immediate and delayed memory for emotional stimuli. *STAR2010: 31 st World Conference on Stress and Anxiety Research*, August, Ireland.
- Cheie, L., **Visu-Petra, L.,** & Miclea, M. (2010). The role of trait anxiety and cue salience on young children's prospective memory performance. *24th European Health Psychology Conference*, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.
- Visu-Petra, L.,** Cheie, L., & Benga, O. (2010) Short-term and long-term remembering in children with high trait anxiety: An investigation using emotional stimuli (STAR Symposia). *24th European Health Psychology Conference*, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.
- Cheie, L. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2010). Prospective memory performance in preschoolers: effects of age, trait anxiety, and cue salience. *Ararat Memory Meeting Workshop*, April, Yerevan, Armenia.
- Cheie, L. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2009) Trait anxiety and memory functioning in preschoolers. *The 30th Stress and Anxiety Research Society Conference*, July, Budapest, Hungary.
- Cheie, L. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2009) Trait anxiety and short term memory in young children: a test of Attentional Control Theory. *The XIV European Conference on Developmental Psychology*. 18 - 22 August, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- Visu-Petra, L.,** Cheie, L., Tincas, I., & Benga, O. (2009) The Impact of Trait Anxiety on Verbal and Visual-Spatial Working Memory in Preschool Children. *Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting*, Denver, Colorado, USA- April 2-4, 2009.
- Visu-Petra, L.** (2008). Invited lecture: The multidimensional development of executive functions: An investigation of working memory, inhibition and shifting in preschoolers. *Training Workshop on the Development of Executive Functions*, St. Catherine's College, Oxford.
- Visu-Petra, L.,** Miclea, M., & Benga, O. (2008). The impact of trait anxiety on preschoolers' memory span: A longitudinal investigation of response-timing indexes. *Cognitive Development, Mechanisms and Constraints - Archives Jean Piaget Advanced Course* (poster), Geneva.
- Visu-Petra, L.,** Benga, O., & Cheie, L. (2008). A response-timing analysis of memory span: Implications of age, list length and subclinical anxiety. *20th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development*, Wurzburg.

- Gousse, V., Veyssiere, A., Tardif, C., **Visu-Petra, L.**, & Michel, G. (2008). Etude de l'évolution des stratégies de coping chez les parents d'enfants souffrant d'un trouble envahissant du développement (TED). *Congres national de la Societe francaise de psychologie, Bordeaux.*
- Visu-Petra, L.**, Benga, O., & Tıncaş, I. (2007). The dynamics of mother-child joint reminiscing: Initiating the social co-construction of autobiographical memory. *13th European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Jena.*
- Visu-Petra, L.**, Benga, O., Dragos, R. (2007). Visuospatial Working Memory in Young Children with Anxiety Symptoms. *Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston, Massachusetts (poster).*
- Benga, O., **Visu-Petra, L.** & Tıncaş, I. (2007). Social cognition, executive functioning and emotional processing throughout early and middle childhood, *Research in education and rehabilitation sciences, Zagreb.*
- Benga, O., Tıncaş, I. & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2007). Social cognition, executive processing and temperament in early childhood: The special case of preschool trait anxiety. *Developmental Social Cognitive Neuroscience, Amsterdam.*
- Petra, L.**, Benga, O., & Tıncaş, I. (2006). Hippocampal-Sensitive Memory Performance In Children With Autism And Down Syndrome: An Analysis of Cognitive and Neurocomputational Processes. *The Second Biennial Conference on Cognitive Science, St. Petersburg (poster).*
- Boroş, S. & **Petra, L.** (2006). (Mis)Perceiving The Impact of Epilepsy Upon Children's Neuropsychological, Social And Academic Functioning: A Q-Sort Analysis. *The Second Biennial Conference on Cognitive Science, St. Petersburg (poster).*
- Petra, L.** (2005). Neuropsychological evaluation of children with epilepsy: Evidence from convergent techniques of assessment. In: *Development and Plasticity of the Human Cerebral Cortex. Zadar-Zagreb: HIIM (poster).*
- Benga O., Tincas I. & **Petra L.** (2006). Cognitive and affective control in anxiety disorders: Neurobiological and neurocomputational mechanisms. *5th Forum of European Neuroscience, 8-12 July, Viena (poster).*
- Benga, O. & **Petra, L.** (2005). Developmental patterns of attention and temperament in children, *XIIth European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Tenerife.*
- Petra, L.**, Benga, O., Opris, D., & Benga, I. (2005). Individual neuropsychological profiles associated with temporal/frontal lobe epilepsy in children and adolescents. *5th Graz Symposium on Developmental Neurology, Graz (poster).*
- Petra, L.** & Benga, O. (2004). Cautions in interpreting the results of neuropsychological assessment and treatment implications in the case of childhood epilepsy. *VIIIth European Conference on Psychological Assessment, Malaga.*
- Petra, L.**, Benga, O. (2003). A Developmental and Neuropsychological Evaluation of Children with Epilepsy, *XIth European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Milan (poster).*

- Petra, L., Benga, O.** (2003). Neuropsychological assessment of children with epilepsy: Utility in spite of individual variability. *International Workshop on Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience: Integrative Perspectives*, Cluj-Napoca.
- Petra, L., Benga, O.** (2002). The Emergence of Autobiographical Memory at the Interplay of Biological Constraints and Socialization, *“Brain Development and Human Cognition in Infants” Euroconference*, Acquafredda di Maratea.
- Invited presentation at Dipartimento di Psicologia, Universita degli Studi di Torino, Dottorato di ricerca in Psicologia sociale e dello sviluppo in una prospettiva applicativa, on the topic “Particular aspects of the neuropsychological approach to the study of atypical developmental trajectories”, may 2005

National conferences (selection):

- Visu-Petra, L., Cheie, L., Benga, O., & Alloway, T.P.** (2010). *Working memory in relation to trait anxiety in young children*. PSIWORLD, Bucharest.
- Cheie, L., Mocan, O., & **Visu-Petra, L.** (2010). *Relația dintre anxietate și actualizare mnezică la copii de vârstă școlară mică (The anxiety – memory updating relationship in early school-age children)*. 5th National Conference of Psychology, Iași.
- Visu-Petra, L., Benga, O., Tincas, I. & Miclea, M.** (2008). Impactul anxietății ca trasătură și al factorilor temperamentalii asupra memoriei la preșcolari. (In Romanian), [The impact of trait anxiety and temperamental factors upon memory in preschoolers] National Conference of Psychology, Timisoara. **Visu-Petra, L., & Cheie, L.** (2007). Investigarea memoriei de scurtă durată la copiii cu simptome de anxietate (In Romanian), [Investigating short-term memory in children with symptoms of anxiety]. 9th Conference of the National Society of Neurology and Psychiatry of Child and Adolescent of Romania.
- Visu-Petra, L. & Benga, O.** (2006). Particular aspects in the executive functioning of atypical developmental profiles revealed by the neuropsychological assessment of working memory. National Conference *Centenarul Psihologiei la Universitatea din București*.
- Benga, O., **Petra, L.,** Palade, S., Țincaș, I. (2006). Neuropsychological correlates in four pediatric neurological conditions. *The second International Conference of the National Neuroscience Society*, 1-3 september, Bucuresti.
- Petra, L., Benga, O.** (2005). Neuropsychological correlates of child epilepsy: early assessment and therapeutic implications. Invited lecture during the first national conference: “Epilepsy and Society”, Cluj-Napoca.
- Petra, L., Benga, O.** (2004). The neuropsychological correlates of the electrophysiological activity in infantile epilepsy. *First Symposium of The National Society of Neurosciences: “The Electrophysiological Investigation of the Nervous System*.
- Petra, L.** (2004). Particular aspects in the neuropsychological assessment of atypical development. *National Psychology Conference: Romanian Psychology and European Integration*, Calimănești-Căciulata.