

Summary

The habilitation thesis *Interferențe onomastice, sociolingvistice, lexicologice în perspectivă romanică* [Onomastic, sociolinguistic and lexicological connections from a Romance perspective] provides a synthesis of the author's activity during his professional journey starting with the year 2004, when he earned the title of "Doctor of Philology". The present work summarises the results of the scientific research undertaken by the candidate in the following fields: onomastics, contemporary Romanian (vocabulary), Romance philology, Latin, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics.

Scientific, professional and academic achievements

The scientific/ professional and academic activity is performed at three levels: publishing specialised books and studies, participating in specialised inter(national) congresses and conferences, participating in grant projects (as the manager of two CNCS projects and a member of the research team of another such project).

My first published book, *Noțiunea „muncă” – o perspectivă sociolingvistică în diacronie* [The Concept of "Work" – A Sociolinguistic Perspective in Diachrony], develops the topic of my doctoral thesis, whose academic supervisor was Professor G.I. Tohăneanu. The chapters of the book discuss the term "work" in its various aspects, both theoretically, from the perspective of linguistics, mythology, psychology, sociology, religion, literature, history and politics, and practically, by describing the semantic fields of the main representative terms of the concept in question, focusing my attention on those in Latin and Romanian.

The interdisciplinary direction of my research is confirmed by the ten books I published as
- sole author:

Limba română în context european [The Romanian Language in European Context];

Un excurs onomastic în spațiul public românesc actual [An Onomastic Excursion into Contemporary Romanian Public Space];

- co-author:

Limba latină. Gramatică și texte [The Latin Language. Grammar and Texts] (re-edited);

Dicta Memorabilia. Dicționar uzual adnotat de sigle, expresii, maxime și citate latine [Dicta Memorabilia. Annotated Everyday Dictionary of Latin Abbreviations, Phrases, Maxims and Quotations];

Multum in parvo. Expresii și citate latinești adnotate [Multum in parvo. Annotated Latin Phrases and Quotations];

- editor:

Onomasticon. Studii despre nume și numire I [Onomasticon. Studies on Name and Naming I];

Numele și numirea. Actele Conferinței Internaționale de Onomastică Ediția I, Interferențe multietnice în antroponimie [Name and Naming. Proceedings of the First International Conference on Onomastics: Multiethnic Connections in Anthroponymy];

Name and Naming: Synchronic and Diachronic Perspectives;

- co-editor:

Confluente lingvistice și filologice [Linguistic and Philological Confluences];

Onomastics in Contemporary Public Space.

The occurrence of the books in all the important libraries in Romania, as well as in hundreds of libraries around the world (230 records for a single title, according to www.worldcat.org) is a persuasive evidence for the researchers' interest in the candidate's activity, the topics approached from an interdisciplinary perspective, the relevance, originality and internationalisation of his contributions.

The fields of interest to which the above-mentioned books pertain were diversified and developed in numerous articles and studies (27 published in Romania, 26 abroad), which appeared in (ISI and BDI) journals and proceeding volumes of conferences or congresses in South Africa, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Spain, the USA, Sweden and Hungary.

The scientific activity I carried out after I defended my PhD thesis also consists of participations in scientific events: 13 in Romania, 12 abroad (on three continents).

The managerial and academic activity is endorsed by my winning, as project manager, two CNCS research grants: *Multiethnic Connections in the Anthroponymy of Maramureș, a Central European Area* (PN II Idei, code 251, contract number 838/2009) and *Onomastics in Contemporary Romanian Public Space: Socio- and Psycholinguistic Research* (PN II TE, code

3/2010, contract number 57/2010). The first project dealt with the causes and effects of the entry of more and more foreign first names (of various origins, such as Romance, Germanic, Slavic and so on) in the Romanian onomasticon, to be more precise, in one of the most traditionalist areas in Romania: Maramureş. Imported anthroponyms were adopted by Romanians, Hungarians, Ukrainians and especially by the Roma, out of the desire to keep up with the Western European onomastic fashion. The lifting of the restrictions after 1989, the booming development of the mass media and the freedom to travel abroad determined that autochthonous, typically Romanian names – mostly of Christian origin – be increasingly often rivalled by imported names, which are more or less adapted to the Romanian language.

The second research project was concerned with the least studied segment of official names: *names in public space*. The act of registering firm names corresponds to the act of recording individual names in the register of births, deaths and marriages, but the aims of the aforementioned naming acts are different (a communicative and advertising purpose in the case of the former, and an individualising purpose as regards the latter). From a sociolinguistic perspective, names of firms are diagnostic indices of the social structure and interactive mechanisms that are specific to a community. From the viewpoint of psycholinguistics, one can establish a connection between the structure of the names and the mental processes of the individuals that create and interpret them in a given communication context. The cognition, memory, emotions and temperament of name givers play a crucial role in name choices.

At the same time, the author is also a member of the research team of *Unconventional Romanian Anthroponyms in European Context: Formation Patterns and Discursive Function*, a grant project funded by CNCS (PN-II-RU-TE-2011-3-0007, contract number 103/2011, project manager: Associate Professor Daiana Felecan).

The candidate's professional affiliation to several national and international specialised bodies (the Romanian Society of Dialectological Sciences, the Names Society of Southern Africa, the Society of Classical Studies, Société de Linguistique Romane [the Society of Romance Linguistics], the International Council of Onomastic Sciences) prompted him to organise two scientific events with a (qualitatively and quantitatively) significant international participation: *The First International Conference on Onomastics "Name and Naming", 2011, Multiethnic Connections in Anthroponymy* (participants from 11 countries); *The Second International*

Conference on Onomastics “Name and Naming”, 2013, Onomastics in Contemporary Public Space (participants from 23 countries).

The didactic activity has got two dimensions:

- activity for bachelor/ master’s students: I teach the following subjects: Latin, (Old) Greek, Contemporary Romanian Language (Vocabulary), Romance Philology (bachelor level); The Dynamic of the Romanian Vocabulary, Sociolinguistics, Romance Anthroponymy, The Basic Vocabulary of Romance Languages (master’s level);

- activity with bachelor/ master’s students and middle school teachers: coordinating the master’s programme *The Romanian Language in European Context (Space, Culture, Communication)*, supervising the study and research of students and teachers, which result in bachelor and master’s theses, and level I didactical qualification theses.

Plans for the evolution and development of the academic, scientific and professional career, directions for research

The academic, scientific and professional career will be developed along the aforementioned directions for research (lexicology, onomastics, sociolinguistics, Romance philology, classical languages), so as to preserve the multidisciplinary character of my work. My aim is to pique the interest of our university’s best bachelor and master’s students in undertaking research activity, by offering them, should I be granted the chance, options of doctoral research into domains in the field of humanities that are yet to be thoroughly explored.

Of the individual topics of research that I intend to approach in the near future, the following can be noted:

- *Ethnic borders and identities reflected in the names of streets in Transylvanian settlements, with particular reference to honyms that are derived from anthroponyms;*

- *Nicknaming: A psycholinguistic perspective (with respect to nicknames given by students to their teachers);*

- *Language contact reflected in the anthroponymy of communities of Romanian emigrants.*

Bibliographical references

The last part of the present project lists the bibliography that I used in writing this thesis and that facilitated my learning the theoretical precepts corresponding to the disciplines in my field of interest.