






PERSONAL INFORMATION

Rusu Alina Simona, PhD



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Sex Female | Date of birth 29/07/1973 | Nationality Romanian

POSITION

Vice-dean, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University  
[www.ubbcluj.ro](http://www.ubbcluj.ro)

Associate Professor, Department of Special Education, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University

WORK EXPERIENCE

Replace with dates (from - to)

[Add separate entries for each experience. Start from the most recent.]

March 2012 – present – Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education (FPSE), Babes-Bolyai University (BBU), Cluj-Napoca, Romania ([www.psiedu.ubbcluj.ro](http://www.psiedu.ubbcluj.ro))

March 2008 – January 2012 - Chancellor of the Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

March 2013 – present: Associate Professor, Special Psycho-pedagogy Department, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University ([psihoped.ubbcluj.ro](http://psihoped.ubbcluj.ro)).

Feb 2009 – March 2013: Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, FPSE, BBU.

Jan 2008 – Feb 2009: Lecturer, Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, FPSE, BBU.

June 2006 – Jan 2008: Postdoctoral Researcher at the International Institute for Advanced Studies in Psychotherapy and Applied Mental Health, BBU.

Jan 2005 – May 2006: Senior Researcher, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, BBU.

Sept 2000 – Apr 2004: Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Biology and Geology, BBU, and PhD student at University of Zurich, Institute of Zoology (Department of Animal Behavior), Switzerland.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Replace with dates (from - to)

[Add separate entries for each course. Start from the most recent.]

- Oct 1991 – June 1996: Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Diploma in Biology (with Highest Honors).
- Oct 1997 – Jan 2000: Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education; graduation in 2009, Faculty of Psychology and Social Sciences, University of Oradea, Diploma in Psychology.
- Oct 1996 – June 1997: Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Master Degree in Biocenology.
- Sept 1994 – Aug 1995: Fellowship Tempus-PHARE, Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.
- Sept 2000 – Apr 2004: University of Zurich, Institute of Zoology. PhD title awarded in April, 2004. Thesis: Development of competitive behavioral profiles in wild house mice, *Mus musculus domesticus*.
- Oct 2005 – Oct 2006: University of North Texas, Distance learning course in Animal assisted activities and therapy. Certificate awarded by Delta Society and University of North Texas.

PERSONAL SKILLS

[Remove any headings left empty.]

Mother tongue(s) Romanian

Other language(s)	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C 1/2	C 1/2	C 1/2	C 1/2	C 1/2
Replace with name of language certificate. Enter level if known.					
French	C 1/2	C 1/2	B 1/2	B 1/2	B 1/2

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user  
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills ▪ good communication skills gained through my experience in teaching and supervising diploma theses (undergraduate and master levels), as well as in the process of coordination of PhD students

Organisational / managerial skills ▪ abilities to coordinate research project teams  
▪ abilities to plan and implement strategies of Quality Assurance at academic level  
▪ leadership abilities (current position: Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University)

Driving licence B

Publications Grigore, A. A., Rusu, A.S. (accepted for publication). Interaction with a therapy dog enhances the effects of Social Story method in autistic children. *Society & Animals*.

Cocia, R.I., Uscatescu, L., Rusu, A.S. (2012). Attention Bias to Threat in Anxiety-Prone Individuals. Evidence from Disengagement, but not Engagement Bias using Cardiac Vagal Tone. *Journal of Psychophysiology*. 26: 74-82.

Dumitrescu, D., Rusu, A.S. (2012). Relationship between early maladaptive schemas, couple satisfaction and individual mate value: an evolutionary psychological approach. *Journal of Cognitive and Behavioral Psychotherapies*, 12:63-76.

Vanderborght, B., Simut, R., Saldien, J., Pop, C.A., Rusu, A.S., Pinte S., Lefeber, D., David, D. (2011). Social Stories for Autistic Children Told by the Huggable Robot Probo. *Cognitive Neuroscience Robotics. IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems IROS 2011: 7-12*.

Tapus, A., Aly, A., Peca, A., Pop, C., Jisa, L., Pinte S., Rusu, A.S., David, D. (2011). Exploratory Study: Children's with Autism Awareness of Being Imitated by Nao Robot. *Proceedings of Human-Robot Interactions (HRI 2012): 1-8*.

Vanderborght, B., Simut, R. Saldien, J., Pop, C. Rusu, A. S., Pinte S., Lefeber, D., David, D. (2012). Using the Social Robot Probo as Social Story Telling Agent for Children with ASD. *Interaction Studies*, 13: 348-372.

Chitic, V., Rusu, A.S., Szamoskozi, S. (2012). The Effects of Animal-Assisted Therapy on Communication and Social Skills. *Transylvanian Journal of Psychology*, 1:2-13.

Cocia, R.I., Rusu, A.S. (2010). Attitudes of Romanian pet owners towards sterilization of their animals: Gender conflict over male, but not over female companion animals. *Anthrozoos*. 23:185-191.

Bartos, S.E., Rusu, A.S. (2010). Do Romanian Heterosexual Men Differ from Homosexual Men in Expressing their Mate Preferences? – A Preliminary Evolutionary Psychological Investigation of the Online Personal Advertisements. *Journal of Cognitive and Behavioral Psychotherapies*. Vol.10, 2:199-

210.

Botezan, D., Rusu, A.S. (2010). Subjective Sleep Quality in Relation to the Type of Living Environment (Rural versus Urban) – An Evolutionary Psychological Analysis of a Romanian Non-Clinical Sample. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal*. vol. XIV, 2:141-158.

Rusu, A.S., Maxim, A. (2009). An Evolutionary Psychological Investigation of Mating Strategies in Romania (II) – How Do Single versus Attached Individuals Search for New Partners? *Journal of Cognitive and Behavioral Psychotherapies*. 9: 169-184.

Rusu, A.S., Benta, I.M. (2009). Social Network Analysis (SNA): An interdisciplinary frame for the study of human-animal communication. *Studies of Special Psychopedagogy*. 1:123-130. Presa Universitară Clujeana. ISBN 978-973-610-875-4.

Rusu, A.S., Krackow, S., Jedelsky, P.L., Stopka, P., Koenig, B. (2008). A qualitative investigation of Major Urinary Proteins in relation to the onset of aggressive behavior and dispersive tendency in male wild house mice (*Mus musculus domesticus*). *Journal of Ethology*. 26:127-135.

Rusu, A.S. (Ed.), 2012 – Second Edition – Human-animal Interactions: Elements of Applied Ethology and Animal-Assisted Therapy. Bybliotek. ISBN 9786069319819, 158 pages (in Romanian).

Bartoş, S.E., Rusu, A.S. (editors), 2011. *Psycho-Biology of Sexuality: Research Ideas*. Sinapsis. ISBN 978-606-531-078-0. 186 pages (in Romanian).

Rusu A.S. (Ed.), 2008 – First Edition - Human-Animal Interaction. Elements of Applied Ethology and Animal-Assisted Therapy. Presa Universitară Clujeana. ISBN 978-973-610-838-9. 150 pages (in Romanian).

Rusu A.S., 2008. *Modern Principles of Zoo Management*. Presa Universitară Clujeană. ISBN 978-973-610-663-7. 125 pages (in Romanian).

David D., Benga O., Rusu A.S., 2007. *Fundamentals of Evolutionary Psychology and Genetic Counseling*. Approaches from biology and psychology. Collegium, Polirom. ISBN 978-973-46-0612-2, 264 pages.

Projects

- Rusu A.S. (Ed.), 2005. *Studying communication in animals*. ASCR, Cluj-Napoca, ISBN 973-7973-23-2, 152 pages.
- National project, 2011-2013. Project PN-II-RU-TE-3-2011-3-0080 - Psycho-social and physiological mechanisms of the effects of human-animal interactions on the socioemotional abilities of autistic children (Director).
- National project, 2011-2014: PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-2-0484 - Exploring Robot-assisted therapy for children with ASD (Member - Senior Researcher).
- National project, 2011-2014: PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0230 – Darwinian Psychotherapy - A clinical trial for an Evolutionary-Driven Type of Intervention for Depression (Member).
- International project 2012-2014: Co-constructing Healthy Experiences - Lifelong Learning Programme Erasmus – Intensive Programmes (IP) – 2012-1-BE3-ERA10-06071; PI Howest University, Belgium (Member).
- National Project – November, 2012 – School of Advanced Studies PN-II-ID-SSA-2012-2-032 – 2012. Human-Animal Interactions: Modern Zoo Management, Animal Welfare and Behavioral Enrichment (Co-Director – with Andrei D. Mihalca, PhD – USAMV CN and Miranda Stevenson, PhD – BIAZA, UK).
- National Project - November, 2012 - Exploratory Workshop PN-II-ID-WE-2012-4-061. 2012. New Advances in Robot Assisted Therapy (Co-Director – with Bram Vanderborght, PhD – VUB, Belgium).
- National Project – December, 2011 - Exploratory Workshop PN-II-ID-WE-2011-061. 2011. Cognitive Clinical Neurosciences: Advance methods for the assessment of neurobiological predictors of psychopathology (Director).
- National project 2005-2007. Psycho-physiological indicators of coping strategies development and behavioral adaptive phenotypes in wild and captive mammals -CEEX Young Researchers Integration Grant (Director).
- National project 2007-2010. Implementing new non-invasive diagnostic methods for the optimization of preoperative cognitive functions in elderly; implications in quality of life and psychosocial performances. PNCDI II (Member).

Conferences

- National project 2008-2011. The role of cognitive factors in emotions: the impact of expectancies and response expectancies in anxiety and pain. PNCDI II (Member).
- CISP 2012 (International Conference of Psychology Students), Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral Presentation. Post-natal depression -Current views from Evolutionary Psychology.
- 41st EABCT Conference. Reykjavik, Iceland. 2011. Interaction with a therapy dog enhances the effects of Social Story method in autistic children. Rusu A.S., Grigore A.A.
- 7th International Congress of Cognitive Psychotherapy. Istanbul, Turkey. 2011. Can the toy robot Pleo decrease our emotional distress? – An investigation of the emotional effects of human interactions with Pleo raised in different controlled conditions. Poster presentation. Rusu A.S.
- 23rd Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society. 2009. Pisa, Italy. From proximate to evolutionary explanations of the anxiety disorders. Oral presentation. Rusu A.S.
- 5th Joint Meeting of East Central and West Central Europe Regions of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE). 2009. Vienna, Austria. Social Network Analysis: A tool for the study of the psycho-physiological effects of Animal Assisted Activities in humans. Tautu L., Benta I.M. and Rusu A.S.
- 5th Joint Meeting of East Central and West Central Europe Regions of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE). 2009. Vienna, Austria. Online persuasion strategies used by animal rights organization sites – a trans-cultural and interdisciplinary investigation (Oniujec, L.D., Rusu, A.S.)
- Workshop Stimulating communication through animal- and robot-assisted therapy. (Rusu A.S.). 2009. National conference Comunicare orală –Comunicare gestuală. Complementaritate și diversitate. Cluj-Napoca, Romania.
- XXIX International Ethological Conference. 2005. Budapest, Hungary. Oral presentation: Dispersal, competitive aggression and urinary chemosignals in wild house mouse males. Rusu A.S.
- Invited speaker at Evolutionary Ecology Seminar, Institute of Zoology, University of Bern (Group of Michael Taborsky). 2005. Bern, Switzerland. Oral presentation: Dispersal propensity and competitive aggression: Parts of the same story in wild house mouse males (*Mus musculus domesticus*)? Rusu A.S.

Honours and awards

- National Award (CNCIS) - in 2008, ASR was awarded by CNCIS with In Hoc Signo Vincens Price for Young Investigators (Domain: Natural Sciences).

Professional training

- (1) Teaching certificate in Cultivating Emotional Balance (certificate awarded in 2010, by Santa Barbara Institute for Consciousness Studies. Cultivating Emotional Balance Teachers' Training (CEBTT) led by Paul Ekman, PhD and B. Alan Wallace, PhD (July 18 – August 24, 2010, Phuket International Mind Center, Thailand).
- (2) Training of Trainers program in Genetic Counseling (5-9 September 2009, Vienna) – training program offered by the European Society of Human Genetics (coordinator: Heather Skirton, PhD, UK).
- (3) Training in non-invasive hormone analysis. Sept 2005. Berlin Summer School, IZW (certificate awarded);
- (4) Diagnostician (biochemist) BSE. March 2004 – Sept 2004. Prionics AG, Schlieren, Switzerland;
- (5) Training in biochemical analysis of Major Urinary Proteins. Apr 2003. Research visit at Biodiversity Group, Charles University, Prague – fellowship awarded by Gender Studies Kollegium, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich).
- (6) Workshop on Self-Organization and Evolution of Social Behavior. Sept 2002. Monte Verita, Ascona, Switzerland, Centro Stefano Franscini, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

14.04.2013 Alina S. Rusu



## ANNEXES

