

Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences
Doctoral School “Education, Reflection,
Development”

The Structuralist-Integrated Model – Applications
in the Therapy of Language and Communication
Disorders. Assessment and Intervention

Summary

Field: Educational Sciences

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The habilitation thesis entitled “The Structuralist-Integrated Model – Applications in the Therapy of Language and Communication Disorders. Assessment and Intervention” synthesizes the scientific, teaching, and research activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Carolina Bodea Hațegan, focusing on the field of special education, with an emphasis on the psycholinguistic approach within speech therapy.

The paper is structured into four main chapters:

1. Academic Career and Professional Achievements. This chapter presents key milestones in academic training and professional development, teaching activity, and contributions to the development of master’s programs in special education—particularly the role in the accreditation and design of the “Language Therapy and Educational Audiology” master’s curriculum. The author’s role as trainer, conference organizer, and mentor for generations of speech therapists is highlighted.
2. Civic Contributions and Science Popularization. This section emphasizes involvement in professional organizations, especially within the Association of Specialists in Speech and Language Therapy of Romania (ASTTLR), editorial work (including as scientific reviewer and editor of the Romanian Journal of Speech and Language Therapy – RRTTLC), the establishment of a model educational center for graduates, and numerous awareness and research dissemination campaigns.
3. Scientific Contributions and Research Directions. This is the central part of the habilitation thesis, where the structuralist-integrated model is theoretically grounded and applied interdisciplinarily (psychology, pedagogy, linguistics) in the assessment and therapy of language and communication disorders. Major contributions include: the development of assessment tools (tests and evaluation protocols for phonetic-phonological, morphological, lexico-semantic, and pragmatic dimensions of language); creation of speech therapy intervention protocols; thematic card sets and digital platforms (e.g., Multigame, Cubuleț.ro); validation of psycholinguistic models for written language acquisition in primary school children; publication of relevant case studies on rare disorders (global aphasia, Smith-Magenis syndrome, apraxia, etc.); emphasis on interdisciplinarity and holistic approaches in therapy.

4. University Career Development Plan. This chapter outlines plans to expand research through digitalization and technological innovation (online therapy platforms), create a University Clinic of Special Education, and strengthen international academic networks. The author also proposes writing a Treatise on Speech and Language Therapy and further developing the specialty journal internationally.

The final section lists 75 bibliographic references and 15 illustrative images from campaigns, therapy activities, and book covers.

In conclusion, this habilitation thesis reflects a solid academic and scientific career with national and international impact, grounded in the structuralist-integrated model. Through research results, developed tools, and civic and educational engagement, the author demonstrates the competencies required to supervise doctoral research and to develop a center of excellence in speech therapy and special education.