

"Alexandru Piru" doctoral school

The field of Philology is the only field currently functioning within the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School (<https://litere.ucv.ro/litere/en>).

1. "Alexandru Piru" doctoral school: general framework

In the current context in which scientific research has gained the status of a driving force of societal development, the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School (Romanian acronym - SDAP) has the determination and resources to strengthen doctoral studies within an authentic, strategic and operational framework. It aims to achieve sustainable university training, underpinning the current imperative of rapid adaptation to the new globalised scientific and cultural environment.

At the level of the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School, there is qualified staff with the necessary experience to carry out the doctoral study programmes. There is steady concern with the quality of the research activity of the doctoral supervisors, directly reflected in the results of young PhD students and supervisors' academic performance.

Fifteen doctoral supervisors carry out their activity in this doctoral field, i.e., PHILOLOGY, within the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School. They all fulfill the minimum CNATDCU standards necessary and mandatory for being conferred the habilitation certificate in force.

2. Mission and objectives

We are convinced of the truth of the statements of Cynthia Eid, Professor at Antonine University in Baabda, Lebanon, who, in her speech at the opening of the International Conference on *Didactics and Information and Communication Technologies. The university training programs*, May 2010, showed that, "We no longer want to train consumers of knowledge in our programs, but we want to produce wealth, because as Bachelard said, 'nothing predisposes more to conformity than lack of adequate training'"¹ (Eid, 2011: 18). Moreover, "with globalization, the university system is invited to operate a profound

¹Eid, Cynthia, Alocuțiunea de deschidere a Colocviului Didactique et TICE IV, în *Actes du colloque Didactique et TICE IV, Les programmes de formation universitaire*, dir. Cynthia Eid (Hadath-Baabda: Les Editions de l'Université Antonine, 2011), pp. 17-22.

mutation that will consist not only in reforming curricula but also in reforming the mentality of both teachers and students." The Alexandru Piru Doctoral School" considers it beneficial to open a "true strategic and operational yard" in order to reach an efficient university training, which will highlight the current imperative of rapid adaptation to the new globalized economic and cultural environment.

We face a fundamental paradigm shift, given that now education no longer means simply transferring knowledge and skills based on traditional pedagogy that has virtually been replaced. It means "helping the others develop autonomy of thought and behaviour, as a human being"².

The mission assumed by the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School aims to train young researchers and specialists in PHILOLOGY, based on in-depth scientific research, in order to prepare the human resources necessary for the advancement of human knowledge and society as a whole. We fully agree with the words of Edgar Allen Poe, "Happiness is not to be found in knowledge but in the acquisition of knowledge." We understand the "doctoral school" as a formative environment that equipping young people for tomorrow's research, called to meet, creatively and originally, to the requirements of the contemporary world.

The strategy defined by the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School aims at developing a high-performance educational and research environment. It focuses on progress and innovation, competitive at a national and international level, strengthening philological doctoral research in a pole of excellence focused on knowledge generation and transfer. It directly impacts by increasing scientific performance, visibility, and specific research outcomes for the socio-economic and cultural environment.

The "Alexandru Piru" doctoral school corroborates its development strategy with the principles of academic and ethic integrity conveyed in scientific research for the development, and motivation of human resources.

The objectives of the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School are substantiated in the following directions:

- Capitalisation of the human resources and research, innovation and development infrastructure of the University of Craiova, of the Faculty of Letters for the development of new highly qualified human resources, following the doctoral training in the field of PHILOLOGY;

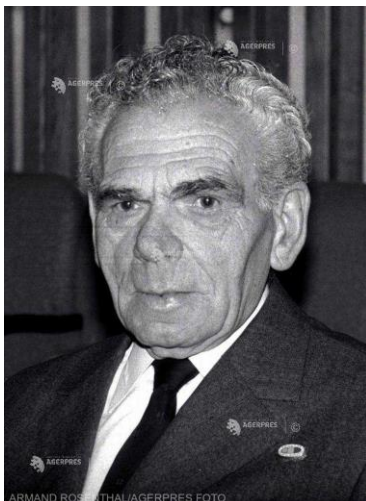
²Dumas, Philippe, „L'enseignant, un chercheur entre conservatisme et futurisme”, p. 78, în *Actes du colloque Didactique et TICE IV, Les programmes de formation universitaire*, dir. Cynthia Eid (Hadath-Baabda: Les Editions de l'Université Antonine, 2011), pp. 59-88.

- Strengthening of the existing field of doctoral philological studies and promotion of new directions, connected to the current trends of philological research at the national and international level, in order to diversify the doctoral research;
- Professional development of the teaching staff through making available documentation opportunities and training mobilities with similar institutions in the country and abroad;
- Continuous increase of the scientific impact of studies and outcomes of doctoral/postdoctoral internships;
- Enhancement of doctoral studies by promoting interdisciplinarity;
- Integration of the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School to national and international networks of excellence;
- Internationalisation of the philological research activity at the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School by collaborating with prestigious specialists from abroad;
- Development of intellectual capacities, critical thinking, self-assessment capacity, research skills of doctoral students, and stimulating their participation in specific national and international events.

The professional-scientific quality of the doctoral supervisors of the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School, the infrastructure we enjoy, the determination and involvement of the institutional decision-makers guarantee for our well-defined place on this competitive market of high-performance education and research systems.

3. *Brief history*

The “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School of the Faculty of Letters was founded in 2005.



Between 2012-2014, following the restructuring of the doctoral programmes at the University of Craiova, the doctoral school at the Faculty of Letters became part of the Doctoral School of Social Sciences and Humanities.

In 2014, the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School of the Faculty of Letters returned to its original structure.

However, the tradition of doctoral studies at the Faculty of Letters is well-established,



starting in 1968 with the first doctoral supervisor, Alexandru Piru.³ A leading figure of Romanian culture, Alexandru Piru was the founder and Dean of the Faculty of Letters, chartering our faculty on the map of Romanian academic philological education.

In memory of this great personality, decisive for our becoming, our doctoral school is honoured to bear his name.

As a tribute, at the end of 2017, the Faculty of Letters organized a prestigious event dedicated to this complex personality of the Romanian culture, the *National Conference on Tradition and Continuity. Cultural, historical and literary perspectives*, in which all the supervisors of our doctoral school and a significant number of doctoral students actively participated, delivering quality presentations.

Alexandru Piru was followed, between 1971-1974, by the equally high standing professor of French literature, Constantin D. Papastate.

In 1990, the doctoral activity was resumed with two doctoral supervisors, Professor Eugen Negrici, PhD and Professor George Sorescu, PhD so that, since then, the dynamics of doctoral studies has been boosted,

The "Alexandru Piru" doctoral school has benefitted, over time, from the experience of over ten great names of Romanian and European philological culture, which we owe a duty of faith to remember:

Professor Felicia BĂRBUȚ BURDESCU
Professor Marin BEȘTELIU
Professor Gheorghe BOLOCAN
Professor Katalin DUMITRAȘCU
Professor habil. DHC Maria ILIESCU
Professor Ovidiu GHIDIRMIC
Professor Irina MAVRODIN
Professor Ioana MURAR
Professor Eugen NEGRICI
Professor George SORESCU
Professor Flora ȘUTEU
Professor Ion TOMA
Professor Lelia TROCAN
Professor Sergio ZOPPI

Table 1 List of SDAP certified doctoral supervisors

³ In the field of Philology, the distinguished professor Alexandru Piru worked as a doctoral supervisor at our university during 1968-1985, specializing in the History of Romanian literature, and Professor Constantin Papastate coordinated doctoral students between 1971-1974, specializing in French Language and literature.

4. The academic and research structure of the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School

4.1 Specialized fields and research directions

The "Alexandru Piru" doctoral school has only one field of doctoral studies, **PHILOLOGY**.

Within this field, doctoral research is carried out in three language areas - Romanian, French and English - and in several thematic areas:

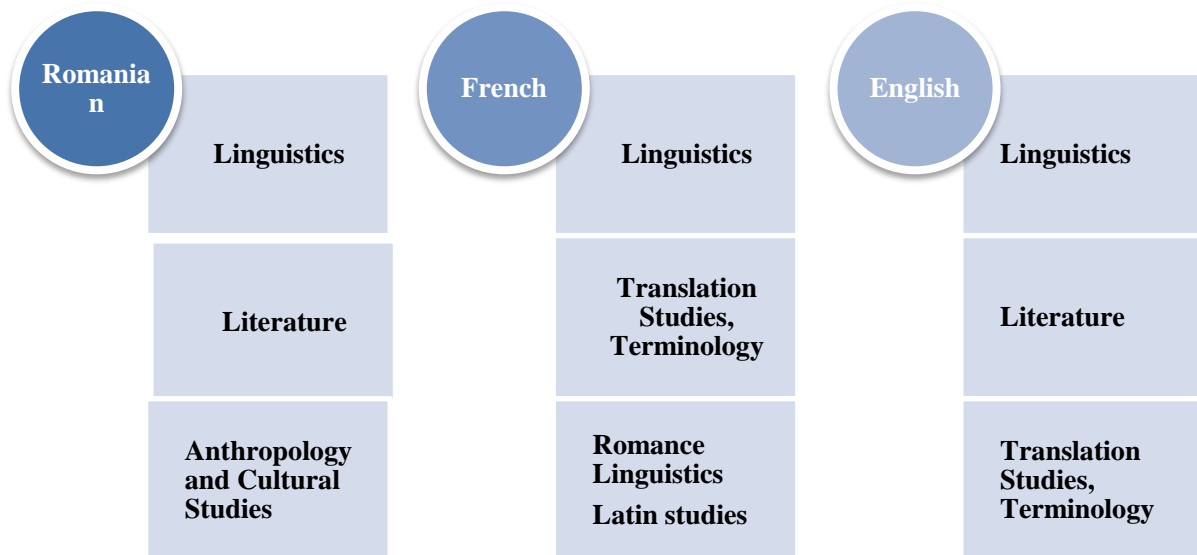


Figure 1 Languages and research sub-fields within the field of PHILOLOGY

5. Organizational chart of the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School

The organizational structure of the Doctoral School "Alexandru Piru" is shown in the figure below:

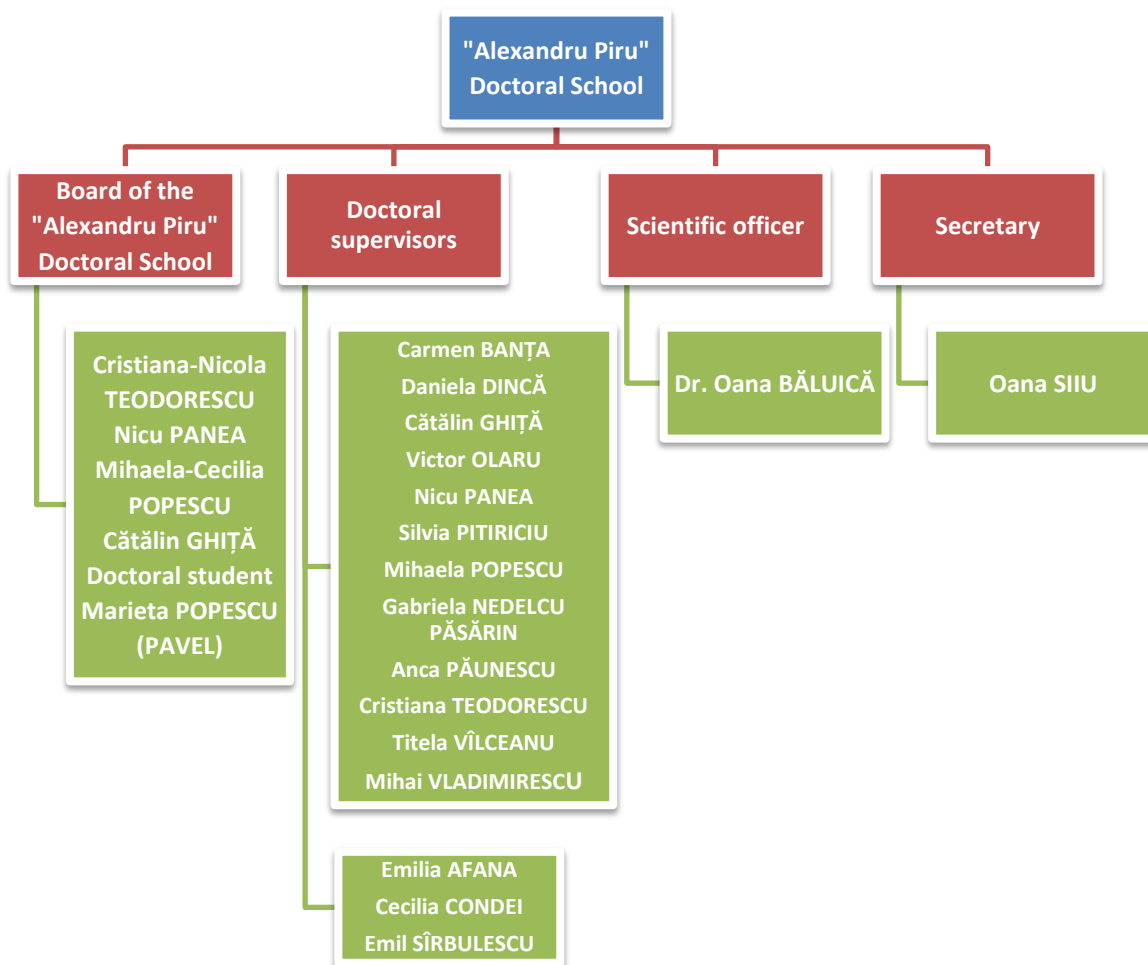


Figure 2 Organizational chart of SDAP

6. Dynamics of the doctoral supervisors number in the last five years:

In the period 2015-2021, the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School had and continues to have in its composition prestigious names in the field of philological sciences, which highlighted by the synthesis below:

2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Afana Emilia	Afana Emilia	Afana Emilia	Afana Emilia	Afana Emilia	Afana Emilia
Bărbuț Burdescu Felicia	Bărbuț Burdescu Felicia	Bărbuț Burdescu Felicia			
				Banța Carmen	Banța Carmen
Condei Cecilia	Condei Cecilia	Condei Cecilia	Condei Cecilia	Condei Cecilia	Condei Cecilia
				Dincă Daniela	Dincă Daniela
Ghiță Cătălin	Ghiță Cătălin	Ghiță Cătălin	Ghiță Cătălin	Ghiță Cătălin	Ghiță Cătălin
Ghidirmic Ovidiu					
Olaru Victor	Olaru Victor	Olaru Victor	Olaru Victor	Olaru Victor	Olaru Victor
Panea Nicu	Panea Nicu	Panea Nicu	Panea Nicu	Panea Nicu	Panea Nicu
					Păunescu Anca
Pitiriciu Silvia	Pitiriciu Silvia	Pitiriciu Silvia	Pitiriciu Silvia	Pitiriciu Silvia	Pitiriciu Silvia
		Popescu Cecilia	Popescu Cecilia	Popescu Cecilia	Popescu Cecilia
		Rusu Gabriela	Rusu Gabriela	Rusu Gabriela	Nedelcu Păsărin Gabriela
Sîrbulescu Emil	Sîrbulescu Emil	Sîrbulescu Emil	Sîrbulescu Emil	Sîrbulescu Emil	Sîrbulescu Emil
Teodorescu Cristiana	Teodorescu Cristiana	Teodorescu Cristiana	Teodorescu Cristiana	Teodorescu Cristiana	Teodorescu Cristiana
Toma Ion	Toma Ion				
Trocan Lelia	Trocan Lelia	Trocan Lelia			
		Vîlceanu Titela	Vîlceanu Titela	Vîlceanu Titela	Vîlceanu Titela
			Vladimirescu Mihai	Vladimirescu Mihai	Vladimirescu Mihai

Table 2 SDAP doctoral supervisors 2015-2021.

In the last five years, the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School has had, therefore, an approximately constant number of doctoral supervisors. However, it should be mentioned that, lately, an increased number of young supervisors have integrated into our doctoral school, as a result of being awarded the certificate of Habilitation, in accordance with the provisions of the *National Education Law no. 1/2011*. As a result, the dynamics of the number of PhD supervisors at the "Alexandru Piru" Doctoral School is, for the period 2015-2021, the following:

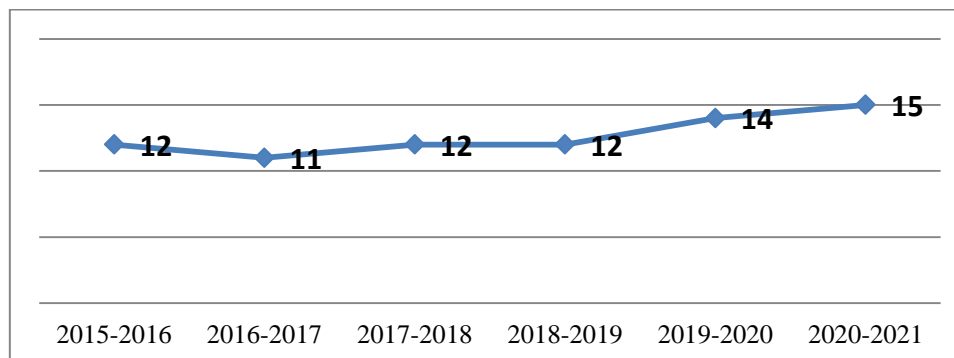


Figure 3 Dynamics of the number of SDAP doctoral supervisors 2015-2021