

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Alina Simona RUSU

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

Current position: Professor (full), PhD, Faculty of Animal Science and Biotechnologies, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania. 2022-present

Coordinator of the master's degree program "Ethology & Human-Animal Interaction", University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania. 2022 -

Certified Humane Educator Specialist/ CHES (credited by Academy of Prosocial Learning, US). 2020 -

ISAP Ambassador for Romania (International Society of Animal Professionals). 2023 -

POSITION

Elected member of the General Assembly of the European Association of Service-Learning in Higher Education/ EASLHE. 2019 –

IAHAIO Board Member (International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organisations). 2024 – 2026.

IAHAIO Eastern & Central Europe Regional representative. 2023 – 2024

Since August, 2014 – present PhD coordinator in Psychology domain (Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania).

Since July, 2019 – present PhD coordinator in Sciences of Education domain. Habilitation title in Sciences of Education, Romania.

Fulbright Ambassador in the Academic Environment (Romanian – US Fulbright Commission) – 2018- 2024

WORK EXPERIENCE

20th of September 2017 – 15th of December 2017 – Fulbright Senior Scholar, School of Social Work, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick (<https://socialwork.rutgers.edu/>), USA.

March 2013 – February 2022: Associate Professor, Special Education Department, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University (psihoped.psiedu.ubbcluj.ro).

March 2014 –present: member of the Doctoral School "Education, Reflection, Development" (Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University). PhD supervisor (Psychology Domain).

April 2014 – September 2017 – Coordinator of the Office for Students with Disabilities of Babes-Bolyai University (bsd.centre.ubbcluj.ro)

August 2013 – September 2018: Director of the Postgraduate Course “Animal Assisted Therapy and Activities for Persons with Special Needs” (Department of Special Education, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, BBU, in collaboration with Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, USAMV Cluj-Napoca).

March 2012 – March 2016 – Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education (FPSE), Babes-Bolyai University (BBU), Cluj-Napoca, Romania (www.psiedu.ubbcluj.ro). Tasks: Quality Assurance and Communication with students.

2016 – present: reviewer and member of the Editorial Committee of Acta Psychopathologica journal.

2019 – present – Reviewer of Journal of Clinical Medicine
<https://www.mdpi.com/journal/jcm>

2019 – present – Reviewer of Sexual and Relationship Therapy
<https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/csmt20>

2013 – present: reviewer for PLOS One Journal (Animal Behavior and Animal Welfare areas) – recommended by editor Alan McElligott, PhD (Queen Mary University of London, UK).

December 2013 – present: international evaluator of projects in the fields of Animal Welfare, Animal Behavior and Human-Animal Interactions for Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA) - <http://www.otka.hu/en>.

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

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

Oct 1991 – June 1996: Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Diploma in Biology (with Highest Honours).

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*.

September 2002: Workshop on Self-Organization and Evolution of Social Behavior. Monte Verita, Ascona, Switzerland, Centro Stefano Franscini, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Switzerland.

April 2004 – May 2004: Course in Scientific Grant Writing (Organizer: Tim Clutton-Brock, University of Cambridge), University of Zurich, Switzerland.

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.

September 2009: Training of Trainers Program in Genetic Counseling (5-9 September 2009, Vienna). Program offered by the European Society of Human Genetics (coordinator: Heather Skirton, PhD, UK).

July 18 – August 24, 2010: Teaching certificate in Cultivating Emotional Balance (certificate awarded in 2010, by Santa Barbara Institute for Consciousness Studies, USA). Cultivating Emotional Balance Teachers' Training (CEBTT) led by Paul Ekman, PhD and B. Alan Wallace, PhD (Phuket International Mind Center, Thailand).

August 2013 – Habilitation title in Psychology (certificate issued by the National Ministry of Education No. 4458 MD/ 09.08.2013). Title of the Habilitation thesis: *Interdisciplinary research of human-animal interactions (animal assisted therapy) and human behavior (evolutionary approach)*.

November 28 – December 1, 2013: Training Program in the Elaboration of Public Policies in Higher Education (Bucharest, Romania) – organizer: UEFISCDI (The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding, Romania).

March 2016 – September 2016. Online training course: Service-Learning in Higher Education. Certificate awarded by CLAYSS (Centro Latinoamericano de Aprendizaje y Servicio Solidario). Coordinators: Lorena Yaber, Luz Avruj, Jorje Sosa Rolon).

14th of March 2017-22nd of March 2017. Erasmus Teaching Mobility. Haifa Gordon Academic College of Education, Haifa, Israel.

27th of April – 4th of May 2018, Erasmus Teaching Mobility, Haifa Gordon Academic College of Education, Haifa, Israel.

24th-28th of June, 2018. Pedagogical Training in Doctoral Supervision (SGroup workshop in Doctoral Supervision, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal) – certificate awarded by University of Porto and SGroup European Universities Network.

13th -20th of October, 2018. Short Research & Training Mobility on Developing an Interdisciplinary Curriculum for Animal-Related Professions at School of Social Work, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, US.

22nd-23rd of October, 2018. Training in Sexual Health Public Policies, NOSTRA Network (POCA). Atelier de formare in domeniul politicilor publice/ NOSTRA- Noi standarde commune in administratia publica centrala din domeniul sanatatii sexuale si reproductive. Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

8th – 13th of April 2019, Erasmus Teaching Mobility, European University Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus.

27th of November – 7th of December 2019, Visiting Professor at North Carolina State University, College of Education, NC, USA (host professor: Margareta Thomson, PhD).

6th – 13th of March 2020. Erasmus Teaching Mobility, European University Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus. Host professor: Petra Daniel.

13th – 19th August 2023. Practical Training at the International Feline-Assisted Intervention Camp, Warsaw, Poland (Erasmus + Animals for People project). Certificate of completion.

30th October – 2nd November 2023. Babson College Symposium for Entrepreneurship Educators, Cluj-Napoca, Romania (certificate of participation).

PERSONAL SKILLS

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 (national and international ones).

Organisational / managerial skills

- Ability to coordinate research project teams (national and international grants)
- Ability to coordinate social and community-oriented activities (Student-for-Student, Service-Learning activities)
- Ability to plan and implement strategies of Quality Assurance at academic level (Higher Education).
- Ability to implement Service-Learning and Humane Education programs.

Driving licence B

PUBLICATIONS

Hica, F. I., **Rusu, A. S.**, Pop, I. F., & Papuc, I. (2026). Comparative anthropomorphism and affective valence shape role perception and relational behaviours in human-pet dyads in Romania. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 17:1771900. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2026.1771900

Giuliano, V. O., Sacchetti, L., **Rusu, A. S.**, Ciccirelli, D., Gazzano, V., de Cesare, M., Visone, M., Mizzoni, V., Napolitano, F., & d'Angelo, D. (2025). Well-Being Indicators in Autistic Children and Therapy Dogs During a Group Intervention: A Pilot Study. *Animals*, 15 (14), 2032. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani15142032>

Sitar, G. M., Ostřanská Spitzer, I., Spitzer, L., Marian, C., Pop, I. F., Sitar, C., & **Rusu, A. S.** (2025). From Values to Action: An Integrative Explanatory Framework for Insect

Conservation Intentions and Behavior. *Insects* 16 (12), 1274.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/insects16121274>

Gergely, R.H., **Rusu, A.S.** (2024). Predictors of parental attitudes towards sexual health education for persons with special needs. *European Journal of Special Needs Education*. 1-10. DOI10.1080/08856257.2024.2351703

Gergely, R.H., **Rusu, A.S.**, Madaras, M., & Kálczá-Jánosi, K. (2024). *Does Talent Protect or Compromise? Investigation of the Emotional and Behavioural Disorders and Giftedness in Children*. *Journal of Educational Sciences and Psychology*, 14(76) (1). pp. 171-187. ISSN 2247-6377 (print); 2247-8558 (online).

Shapir, B., & **Rusu, A.S.** (2024). Pre-service Teachers Reflections on Their Ability to Conduct Authentic Dialogue in Preschool after Training Program Participation. *Educatia* 21, 27, 103-111. doi: 10.24193/ed21.2024.27.10

Armoza-Levi, D., & **Rusu, AS.** (2024). Promoting Kindergarten Teachers' Personal and Professional Well-Being Through a Program Based on Positive Psychology. 27. 160-169. doi: 10.24193/ed21.2024.27.16

Rusu, A.S., Pop, I.F., Olsen, C. Nawarecka-Piatek, M., Plewczynski, M., Øverli Holm, E., & Turner, D.C. (2024). Proposal of a private caretaker-completed questionnaire to assess the suitability of domestic cats for animal-assisted interventions. *People and Animals: The International Journal of Research and Practice*, 7, 1-15.

Rusu, A.S. (2023). Psychology applied to Anthrozoology –Reflections on designing an interdisciplinary curriculum. In: *Non-human animals in Open Societies. Anthrozoology Studies* (Eds. Frasin, I., Bodi, G., Bulei, S., & Vasiliu, C.). pp. 211-221, Ed. Presa Universitară Clujeană. ISBN 978-606-37-1959-2.

Sitar, G.M., & **Rusu, A.S.** (2023). The Impact of Environmental Educational Programs in Promoting Insects Conservation Awareness: A Scoping Review. *Journal of Educational Sciences*, XXIV, 1(47), 74-92.

Puțaru, A., & **Rusu, A. S.** (2023). Qualitative Literature Review Concerning Psycho-Social Factors of the Student – Teacher Relationship. *Education, Reflection, Development - ERD 2022*, vol 6. *European Proceedings of Educational Sciences* (pp. 411-419). European Publisher. <https://doi.org/10.15405/epes.23056.37>

Stupu, A. G., & **Rusu, A.S.** (2022). Integrative Analysis of Ethical Intelligence and Moral Intelligence: New Conceptual Models and Developments in Education. *Educatia* 21, 23, 1-15, doi: 10.24193/ed21.2022.23.06

Gergely, R., & Rusu, A.S. (2022). Linguistic Validation of the Romanian and Hungarian Translations of the Attitudes About Sexuality for People with Disabilities Questionnaire. *Educatia* 21, 23, 1-7. doi: 10.24193/ed21.2022.23.09

Rusu AS, & Davis R (2022). Interdisciplinary approach of Yalom's group therapy factors: A theoretical model for including animal presence in social work education and practice. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 9:1024355. doi: 10.3389/fvets.2022.1024355

Lupas, R. V., Petrovai, D. S., Mercea, R., & Rusu, A. S. (2022). Theoretical Bases of a Wellbeing Intervention Program for Pre-University Teachers. In *Education, Reflection, Development - ERD 2021*, vol 2. *European Proceedings of Educational Sciences*, 785-794. <https://doi.org/10.15405/epes.22032.78>

Rusu, A.S. (2021). Interdisciplinary Ideas for Fostering Social Connectedness through Civic Involvement of Higher Education Students in Times of Crisis. *Research and Education*, 5, 11-21. DOI [10.56177/red.5.2021.art.3](https://doi.org/10.56177/red.5.2021.art.3)

Gergely, R.H., & Rusu, A.S. (2021). A qualitative investigation of parental attitudes and needs for sexual health education for children with autism in Romania. *Journal of Educational Sciences & Psychology*, 11(2), 64-75.

Putaru, A.I., & Rusu, A.S. (2021). Investigation of the relationship between dating anxiety, self-esteem and social connectedness in emerging adults. *Journal of Educational Sciences & Psychology*, 11(2), 102-113.

Gherasim, A., & Rusu, A.S. (2021). Psycho-Social Benefits of an Afterschool Program in Romania: Qualitative Analysis of Parental Perceptions *Educația 21*, 21, 1-10, 10.24193/ed21.2021.21.12

Rusu, A.S., Criste, A.D., & Dezmirean, D.S. (2021). Voices of NGOs Supporting the First Master's Degree Program in Ethology and Human-Animal Interactions in Romania: An Exploratory Qualitative Analysis. *Animals*, 11(4), 1-16, <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani11041091>

Ilic, B.C., Gregorova, A.D., & Rusu, A.S. (2021). Service-learning as a Novelty Experience at Central and Eastern European Universities: Students' Narratives of Satisfaction, Empowerment, and Premises of Change. *Frontiers in education*, 6, 1-13. doi: 10.3389/feduc.2021.606356

Lupaș, V.R., Rusu, A.S. (2020). Belongingness and maladaptive schemas: A wellbeing group intervention program for highschool teachers. *Educația 21*, 19, 25-31. doi: 10.24193/ed21.2020.19.03

Luzzatto, E., Rusu, A.S. (2020). Development of a Neuroscience Motifs-based Teacher Training Program for Pre-Service Teachers in Special Education in Israel. *Educația 21*, 19, 181-190.

Rusu, A.S. (2020). Connectedness behind social distancing in times of Covid-19: Qualitative analysis of civic engagement of students and teachers in Romania. *Journal of Educational Sciences & Psychology*, X, 1, 35-41.

Simion, R., Rusu, A.S. (2020). A qualitative study on the values of moral ecopedagogy: A case study of a Romanian school. *Educația 21*, 18, 1-7. doi: 10.24193/ed21.2020.18.04

Demeter, E., Rusu, A.S. (2019). Impact of institutionalization on cognitive distortions and anti-social behavior in juvenile delinquents in Romania. *Journal of Educational Sciences & Psychology*, 19 (2), 95-101.

Rusu, A.S., Costea-Barlutiu, C., Turner, D.C. (2019). Interpersonal and Pet Attachment, Empathy toward Animals and Anthropomorphism: An Investigation of Pet Owners in Romania. *People and Animals: The International Journal of Research and Practice*, 2(1), 1-14.

Gerchenovitch, Y., Rusu, A.S. (2019). Pre-Service Teachers attitudes and knowledge concerning Sexual Health Education in the field of Special Education, *Educația21*, 17, 1-9, DOI [10.24193/ed21.2019.17.06](https://doi.org/10.24193/ed21.2019.17.06)

Ionescu, E.I., Costea-Barlutiu, C., Rusu, A.S. (2019). Attitudes of Special Education teachers towards sexual education of students with intellectual disabilities: Effects of religiosity and professional experiences. *Educația21*, 17, 1-12, DOI [10.24193/ed21.2019.17.10](https://doi.org/10.24193/ed21.2019.17.10)

Rusu, A.S. (2019). Interdisciplinary Learning Objective for Service-Learning Curricula: Neurobiological and Evolutionary Explanations of Helping Others. *Proceedings of*

EDULEARN19 Conference, 1st-3rd July 2019, Palma, Mallorca, Spain. 2100-2106. doi: 10.21125/edulearn.2019.0571

Rusu, A.S. (2019). Educational practices for civic engaged students: Service-Learning - from general to applied values in animal-oriented professions. *Journal of Educational Sciences & Psychology*, IX (LXXI), 29-35.

Pop, M.V., & Rusu, A.S. (2019). Couple Relationship and Parent-Child Relationship Quality: Factors Relevant to Parent-Child Communication on Sexuality in Romania. *J. Clin. Med.*, 8, 386.

Demeter, E., & Rusu, A.S. (2019). Assessed Social Support and Anti-Social Behaviors in Juvenile Delinquents: Preliminary Investigation. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 83-90.

Chis, A., & Rusu, A.S. (2019). School-based Interventions for Developing Emotional Abilities in Adolescents: A Systematic Review. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 430-439. <https://doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2019.06.52>

Luzzato, E., & Rusu, A.S. (2019). Teacher Self-Efficacy, Attitudes toward Change and Neuroeducation Perception: Tool Package Development. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 114-122. <https://doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2019.06.15>

Rusu, A.S., & Davis, R. (2018). Civic engagement of students through human-animal interactions: Ideas for an Interdisciplinary Service Learning-based curriculum. *CIEA 2018 Proceedings* (ISI indexed) of The Fifth International Conference on Adult Education, Iasi, Romania, 25th-27th of April, 2018, 583-590.

Rusu, A.S. (2018). Explanatory theories of positive human-animal interactions: A multidisciplinary approach. *Noema XVII* (Romanian Academy). <http://noema.crist.ro/> (in Romanian language), 69-78.

Rusu, A.S., Pop, D., & Turner, D.C. (2018). Geographically apart, attitudinally very close: A comparison of attitudes toward animals between Romania and Mexico City. *People and Animals: The International Journal for Research and Practice*, 1:1-14.

Pop, I.F., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Dysfunctional sexual beliefs, mother-daughter relationship and couple satisfaction in Romania – Preliminary results. *Research in Psychology and Sciences of Education*, IV:131-147 (Ed. Argonaut, in Romanian language).

Chis, A., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Romanian Translation and Linguistic Validation of the Adolescent Risk-taking Behavior Scale (ARQ-b). *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*. ISSN 2357-1330, 249-258.

Copaci, I.A., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Service-Learning e-tutoring program for Romanian pre-service teachers: Toward a validated higher-education inclusion model. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*. ISSN 2357-1330, 468-476.

Demeter, E., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Romanian Translation and Linguistic Validation of the How I Think Questionnaire. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*. ISSN 2357-1330, 241-248.

Gerchenovitch, Y., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Components of Sexual Health Programs for Special Education Students and Pre-service Teachers: A Systematic Literature Review. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*. ISSN 2357-1330, 449-459.

Luzzato, E., Shacham, M., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Roles of metacognitive strategies in reading comprehension tasks in Special Education pupils: A systematic literature review. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*. ISSN 2357-1330, 321-329.

Alaluf, O., & Rusu, A.S. (2018). Does the Type of Disability of Special Needs Pupils impact the Israeli Teachers' Attitudes toward Parental Involvement in School? *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*. ISSN 2357-1330, 593-603.

Rusu, A.S. (2017). Hundegestützte Tätigkeiten für Kinder mit Autismus: freies Spiel oder strukturierte Tätigkeiten? In "tiergeützten" Zeitschrift (Institut für Soziales Lernen mit Tieren, Deutschland), 3-2017. <http://lernen-mit-tieren.de/tiergestuetzte-fachzeitschrift-fuer-das-arbeitsfeld-der-tiergestuetzten-interventionen>

Rusu, A.S., Ober, C.A., Mihalca, A.D., & Tuner, D.C. (2017). Romanian version of the Attitudes toward Animals Questionnaire (Turner, 2010): On the affective and instrumental dimensions of human-animal interaction. *Research and Studies in Social and Humanistic Domain, Romanian Academy - Cluj-Napoca Department*, Ed. Limes & Argonaut, Vol. 30:295-308.

Copaci, I., Soos, A., & Rusu, A.S. (2017). Romanian translation and linguistic validation of the Civic Attitudes and Skills Questionnaire: Implications for Pre-Service Teachers' Evaluation. *Journal of Psychological and Educational Research/JPER*, 25 (1a): 92-107. <http://www.marianjournals.com/special-issues/>

Pop, M.V., & Rusu, A.S. (2017). Developing a Sexuality Education Program for Parents in Romania – Preliminary Analysis. *Journal of Psychological and Educational Research/JPER*, 25 (1a): 57-73.

Chis, A., Copaci, I., & Rusu, A.S. (2017). Romanian translation and linguistic validation of the Children and Adolescent Social Support Scale (CASS). *Journal of Psychological and Educational Research/JPER*, 25 (1a): 44-56.

Rusu A.S. (2016). Evolutionary-Based Aspects of the Optimal Social Functioning in Prison. *Acta Psychopathologica*, 2:47-51. doi: 10.4172/2469-6676.100073.

Copaci, I., & Rusu, A.S. (2016). Trends in Higher Education Service-Learning Courses for Pre-Service Teachers: a Systematic Review. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18:1-11.

Andelin, I.E., Rusu, A.S. (2016). An evolutionary analysis of seductive behavior of newly convicted females during primary psychological interview: Does suicidal attempt matter? *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18:27-34. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2016.12.4>

Chitic, V., & Rusu, A.S. (2016). An Interdisciplinary Methodological Approach (ethology and sociometry) of Assessing the Effects of Animal Assisted Therapy on Children with Special Needs. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 18:101-108. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2016.12.14>

Chis, A., Rusu, A.S. (2016). On the Connection between Emotional Intelligence and Academic Achievement in Adolescence - A Systematic Review. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18:91-100. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2016.12.13>

Taller-Azulay, G., & Rusu, A.S. (2016). Investigation of the level of involvement of Israeli parents in the formal education of their hearing impaired children: Preliminary data. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18:173-182. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2016.12.24>

Pop, I.F., Iclozan, D. A., Barluti-Costea, C., & Rusu, A.S. (2016). An Analysis of Sexual Dysfunctional Beliefs of Romanian Women (Mothers and Daughters): An intergenerational approach. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18:488-495.

Pop, M.V., & Rusu, A.S. (2016). Social Media Bring More than Friends: Romanian Parents' Use of the Internet to Improve Their Parenting Skills as Sexual Educators. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18: 496-504. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2016.12.61>

Goldstein, T., & Rusu, A.S. (2016). The Effects of Nature-Oriented Preschools on Social, Emotional and Intellectual Aspects of Israeli Children. *The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, eISSN 2357-1330, 18:623-630. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2016.12.77>

Pop, D., Rusu, A.S., & Miresan, V. (2016). The Development of a Canine Para-Agility Program: Positive Affects in Children with Autism and in Therapy Dogs. *Bulletin of University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine CN: Animal Sciences and Biotechnologies*. 73:1-6. Doi: 10.15835/buasvmcn-asb:11812

Rusu, A.S., Copaci, I.A., & Soos, A. (2015). The Impact of Service-Learning on Improving Students' Teacher Training: Testing the Efficiency of a Tutoring Program in Increasing Future Teachers' Civic Attitudes, Skills and Self-Efficacy. *Procedia – Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 203: 75-83. Doi: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2015.08.262

Meier-Popa, O., & Rusu, A.S. (2015). Offices for Students with Disabilities: From addressing individual special needs to increasing public awareness towards disability. *Educatia 21 Journal* (Online Journal reviste.ubbcluj.ro/educatia21/): 10-25. E-ISSN: 2247-8671.

Copaci, I.A., & Rusu, A.S. (2015). A Profile Outline of Higher Education E-Tutoring Programs for the Digital-Native Student. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences* 209:145-153. Doi: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2015.11.270

Costea-Barluti, C., & Rusu, A.S. (2015). A preliminary investigation of Romanian university teachers' attitudes towards disabilities – a premise for inclusive interaction with students with disabilities. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 209:572-579. Doi:10.1016/j.sbspro.2015.11.289

Paunescu, R.L., Rusu, A.S., Zagrian, A., Sut, V., Mosoia, G., & Miclutia, I. (2015). Animal Assisted Therapy – Benefits to Clients (In Romanian language). *Revista Romana de Psihiatrie*. XVII (1):10-14. ISSN 1454-7848.

Pop, D.A., Rusu, A.S., Vancia-Pop, V., Papuc, I., Constantinescu, R., & Miresan, V. (2014). Physiological effects of human-animal positive interactions in dogs – Review of the literature. *Bulletin of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca - Animal Science and Biotechnologies*, 71:102-111. Doi: 10.15835/buasvmcn-asb:10398

Rusu, A.S., Bencic, A., & Hodor, T. (2014). Service-Learning programs for Romanian students – an analysis of international programs and ideas of implementation. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 142:154-161. Doi: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.07.632

Bizo, I. A., Rusu, A.S., & Opre, A.N. (2014). The mediation effect of response expectancies between religious coping and non-volitional responses with patients with breast cancer. *Journal for the Study of Religious and Ideologies*. 13(39):4-24. ISSN 1583-0039.

Grigore, A. A., & Rusu, A.S. (2014). Interaction with a therapy dog enhances the effects of Social Story method in autistic children. *Society & Animals*. 22:241-261. Doi: 10.1163/15685306-12341326

Rusu, A.S., Grigore, A.A. (2013). Effects of Animal-Assisted Interactions (therapy dogs) on

the Enrichment of Socio-Emotional Skills of Autistic Children. Cartea Alba a Psihopedagogiei Speciale. Coordinator: Adrian Rosan. ISBN 978-973-0-15757-4. Pp.1-6.

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Rusu, A.S. (2021). Evolutionary Psychology and Incarceration. In "*The SAGE Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*", Ed. Todd K. Shackelford, volume 3, pages 243-254, ISBN 978-1-5264-8916-6.

Rusu, A.S. (2021). Civic Engagement of Students through Human-Animal Interactions. In "Career Paths in Human-Animal Interaction for Social and Behavioral Scientists", Eds. Lori Kogan & Phyllis Erdman, Routledge, ISBN 9780367366155, pages 50-52.

Rusu, A.S. (2020). Chapter: Service-Learning in Higher Education Institutions – Fostering Human-Animal Interactions through Service-Learning – Babeş-Bolyai University. In *Humane Education in Higher Education. Advancing Inclusive Social Justice Studies in a Postsecondary Environment* (Ed. Stephanie Itle-Clark). WYC Humane Press, US, ISBN 978-1-946044-86-0, pages 242-252.

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“Autism – Paradigms and Clinical Applications”. Ed. Janne Yip, InTech Publisher, ISBN 978-953-51-5013-8, pages 269-290.

Pop, D., & **Rusu, A.S.** (2016). Chapter: Interacțiunea pozitivă om-câine și intervențiile asistate de animale aplicate în programele de dezvoltare socio-emoțională a copiilor cu autism. În *Abordarea psiho-socială a dizabilității: Modele de evaluare și intervenție* (Coord. Carmen Costea Bărluțiu). Ed. Presa Universitară Clujeană. Pag. 84-101. ISBN 978-606-37-0094-1.

Rusu, A.S. (2015). Chapter: Development of structures/offices to address the academic integration of students with disabilities. In: “Strategic framework for equity in higher education”. Higher Education Policy Series, 13: 144-151.

Rusu, A.S., Muresan, V.C. (Eds.), 2014. Couple satisfaction – Research ideas (in Romanian). Ed. Grinta, ISBN 978-973-126-555-1, 149 pages.

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).

Bartoș, 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. Principii moderne de amenajare a gradinilor zoologice. Presa Universitară Clujeană. ISBN 978-973-610-663-7. 125 pages (in Romanian).

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

Rusu A.S. (Ed.), 2005. Studying communication in animals. ASCR, Cluj-Napoca, ISBN 973-7973-23-2, 152 pages.

Rusu A.S. 2004. Development of competitive behavioural profiles in wild house mice (*Mus domesticus*). ASCR, Cluj-Napoca, ISBN 973-7973-13-5, 100 pages.

RESEARCH PROJECTS (including ERASMUS +, with research component)

COST Project CA23106 - An Evolutionary View to Understanding Affective States across Species (AFFECT-EVO) (2024-2028). <https://affect-evo.eu/> National coordinator (Romania): Alina S. Rusu.

COST Project CA21124 - LIFT: Lifting farm animal lives – laying the foundations for positive animal welfare (LIFT) 2022-2026. Member of the WG 1 “Defining key concepts of positive animal welfare”: Alina S. Rusu.

Erasmus+ Project Animals for People 2021-1-PL01-KA220-VET000033326 (2021-2024). Coordinator: Animals for People Association – Poland, partners: University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca – Romania, Dyrebar Omsorg AS - Norway, and the Institute for applied Ethology and Animal Psychology – Switzerland. Coordinator of the Romanian team: Alina S. Rusu.

Erasmus + Project Service learning in Higher Education – fostering the third mission of universities and civic engagement of students (2017-2020). Coordinator: Matej Bel

University in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia). Director of the Romanian team: Alina S. Rusu.

National Project, 2014-2017, PN-II-PT-PCCA-2013-4-0781- Platform for psychopedagogical screening and interdisciplinary interventions (animal assisted occupational therapy) for the social-emotional enrichment of autistic children and their families. Director of the project: Alina S. Rusu.

National UEFISCDI Project Internationalisation, Equity, Management in Higher Education (IEMU). Co-author of the "Strategic framework for equity in higher education". Higher Education Policy Series, 13: 144-151. Temporary Expert (June - August, 2015): Alina S. Rusu.

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 socio-emotional abilities of autistic children. Director of the project: Alina S. Rusu.

International project 2012-2014: Co-constructing Healthy Experiences - Lifelong Learning Programme Erasmus – Intensive Programmes (IP) – 2012-1-BE3-ERA10-06071; PI Howest University, Belgium. Coordinator of the Romanian team: Alina S. Rusu.

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: Alina S. Rusu, together with Andrei D. Mihalca, PhD – USAMV CN and Miranda Stevenson, PhD – BIAZA, UK.

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: Alina S. Rusu.

National UEFISCDI Project Internationalisation, Equity, Management in Higher Education (IEMU). Temporary Expert (June - August, 2015). Co-author of the "Strategic framework for equity in higher education". Higher Education Policy Series, 13: 144-151.

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 (Coordinator of the Romanian team).

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 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).

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).

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS (CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS)

24th April 2025. 47th Animal Behavior and Welfare Conference in Africa. "Freedom to choose: Unlocking better welfare in companion, farm and wild animals". Agency and perceived safety in relation to animal welfare – Recent approaches (keynote: Alina S. Rusu).

7-9 November 2024. Anthrozoology Symposium, Seventh Edition, Exploring Connections, Hierarchies and Transformations in more-than-human Worlds, Iasi, Romania. Oral presentation: "Companion Animal Presence and the Perceived Safety of Social Contexts: How, When and Why? (Alina S. Rusu).

19 October 2024. International Conference "Cats, donkeys, chickens and other species in practice: How animals are changing therapy", Warsaw, Poland. Oral presentation: "Concepts and benefits of livestock assisted services" (Alina S. Rusu).

7-8 September 2024. IAHAIO International Conference "The power of Human-Animal Interaction in Times of Crisis", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: Education, research and practice in the field of human-animal interaction in Romania – challenges and opportunities (Alina S. Rusu).

16-17 May 2024. ECEM Staff Training (organized by SGroup Universities in Europe), Porto, Portugal. Oral presentation: Service-Learning in Higher Education – Connectedness and paths to social resilience (Alina S. Rusu).

24th – 25th November, 2023. International Conference "One Health-One Earth", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: "Applied values of One Health-One Welfare approach to Animal-assisted Interventions" (Alina S. Rusu).

2nd – 4th of November, 2023. International Anthrozoology Symposium "Multispecies Communities and Narratives", Iasi, Romania. Oral presentation: "What are they learning from us? A scoping review on the assessment of animal welfare education programs in children" (Alina S. Rusu).

27th-28th of September, 2023. 6th European Conference on Service-Learning in Higher Education "Futures of Service-Learning. Digital Empowerment, Transformational Literacy & Civic Engagement", Rome, Italy. Oral presentation: "Toward a humane education and collaborative mindset in students: Service-Learning for animal cruelty prevention in Romania" (Alina S. Rusu).

23rd of June, 2023. International Conference "Education, Reflection, Development", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: "Photography-based pedagogy in relation to Social-Emotional Learning in adolescents – Systematic literature review". Adi-Gielgun Katz & Alina S. Rusu.

23rd of June, 2023. International Conference "Education, Reflection, Development", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: "Teachers' Perceptions of Ecological Education Programs in Preschoolers - A Focus Group Approach". Andreea A. Marin & Alina S. Rusu.

23rd of June, 2023. International Conference "Education, Reflection, Development", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: Theoretical Framework For Developing An Interdisciplinary Environmental Educational Program On Insect Conservation For Primary School Children". Geanina Sitar, Cristian Sitar, & Alina S. Rusu.

23rd of June, 2023. International Conference "Education, Reflection, Development", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: "Connecting academic hospitality,

Service-Learning and values of ethico-moral intelligence - A case of narrative analysis". Andrei G. Stupu, Isabel Baptista, & Alina S. Rusu.

23rd of June, 2023. International Conference "Education, Reflection, Development", Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: "Quantitative Investigation Of Students' Perceptions of Social Connectedness and Social Anxiety in the Context of Teacher-Student Relationship". Alexandra I. Puțaru & Alina S. Rusu.

21st-23rd of July, 2022. International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES) Conference, Montreal, Canada. Poster presentation: "Special Education pre-service teachers perceptions of a program based on neuroscience motifs. A qualitative investigation". Luzzatto, E., Shalom, M., & Rusu, A.S.

20th May 2022, SEA-EU SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE COMMUNITY-ENGAGED UNIVERSITY, Split, Croatia. Oral presentation: Service-Learning as a novelty experience at Central and Eastern European Universities: Students' narratives of satisfaction and change. Culum-Ilic, B., Gregorova-Brozmanova, A., Rusu, A.S, & Heinzova, Z.

6th – 8th of May, 2022. HEART International Conference. Workshop: Applied values of positive human-animal interactions. Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Invited trainer: Rusu, A.S.

27th of April, 2022. Seminar Weaving a Community of Service and Learning. Organisers: UNISERVITATE Hub (Deusto University, Spain and St Mary's University, UK), London, UK. Oral presentation: Appropriate Assessments in Service-Learning. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu.

22nd of July, 2021. Workshop Quality Education. "Fostering social connection and mental health of students in times of crisis – the role of civic engagement". International Student Week in Timisoara/ ISWinT, Timisoara, Romania. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu.

20th of May, 2021. Workshop: "Dealing with Rejection of Manuscripts: Reflections of a PhD Coordinator". Enformation – Extra Conference Day, Bucharest, Romania. Invited speaker: Rusu, A.S.

19th – 21st of November, 2020. Webinar: „Community-oriented pedagogy (Service-Learning): Models of connecting students with the third mission of Universities". Teach4Future, University of Bucharest, Romania. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu.

14th of November, 2020. Webinar "Human-animal (tele)interactions: Implications for mental health practice and everyday life" (invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu). HEART Evenings, Organization of Medical Students, University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Iuliu Hatieganu", Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

6th – 8th of November, 2020. Oral presentation "We and the community cats. Peaceful coexistence through education-based solutions" (speaker: Alina S. Rusu). Anthrozoology Symposium, Third Edition, Ethics and the Non-human World. Iasi, Romania.

27th – 28th of October, 2020. Oral presentation: „Compassion based education and the civic engagement of students: Challenges of the online teaching". Romanian Conference for Education and Research, 7th Edition, Bucharest, Romania. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu.

13th – 15th of July, 2020. Oral presentation "Students' assessment of Service-Learning in a Romanian Higher Education Institution: Premises for meaningful reflection" (speaker: Alina S. Rusu). The Third European Conference on Service-Learning in Higher Education. Bratislava, Slovakia.

26th of March 2020. Online workshop "Service-Learning in times of pandemia: online workshop with open reflection". Hosted by the UNISERVITATE Hub - the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (CUEI) - in collaboration with CLAYSS (Centro Latinoamericano de Aprendizaje y Servicio Solidario). Participation by invitation.

26th of February 2020. Online Experts Seminar "Is there an European approach of Service-Learning in Higher Education?" organized by European Observatory of S-L in Higher Education. Invited expert: Alina S. Rusu.

5th of December 2019, Raleigh, College of Education, North Carolina State University. Invited lecture: "Interdisciplinary Approaches to Research, Outreach and Teaching: European Perspectives".

15th-17th of November 2019, Sibiu, Romania. ASCIP International Congress „Modern Research in Psychology”, 13th Edition. Workshop: „Principle of inclusion of animals in clinical psychology practice” (Alina S. Rusu).

1st -2nd of November 2019, Iasi, Romania. Anthrozoology International Symposium Thinking Beyond Borders. Invited speaker – oral presentation (Alina S. Rusu): Compassion fatigue and moral distress in human-animal interactions: Psychological and educational approaches.

2nd-3rd of July, 2019, Palma de Mallorca, Spain. EDULEARN19, 11th Annual International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies. Poster presentation: „Interdisciplinary Learning Objective for Service-Learning Curricula: Neurobiological and Evolutionary Explanations of Helping Others” (Alina S. Rusu).

22nd of May 2019, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Cheetah Awareness Day. Co-host of the event. University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca.

16th – 19th of May 2019, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. International Conference of Psychology Students (CISP). Invited speaker: Toward LGBTQ+ inclusive curricula in Higher Education Institutions: What can I do? (Alina S. Rusu).

16th of November 2018, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. International Mini-Symposium: Service-Learning in Higher Education Institutions: Values, readiness and good practices. Organizer and oral presentation (Brozmanova, A., & Rusu, A.S.): SLIHE projects and Service-Learning needs analysis at Babes-Bolyai University.

8th-9th of November, 2018, Bucharest, Romania. Social Work International Conference "The Challenges of Glocal Social Work Education, Practice and Research". Oral presentation (Alina S. Rusu): Development of Veterinary Social Work in Romania: Education, Research and Community-Oriented Programs.

2nd of November, 2018, Iasi, Romania. First Edition of Anthrozoology International Symposium. Oral presentation (Alina S. Rusu): Multidisciplinary Approach of Human-Animal Interactions: Mechanisms and Applied Values.

26th-27th of October, 2018, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. International Symposium "ProEDU 2018 – Trends and challenges in contemporary education". Oral presentation (Alina S. Rusu): Educational practices for civic engaged students: Service-Learning - from general to applied values in animal-oriented professions.

26th-27th of October, 2018, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. International Symposium "ProEDU 2018 – Trends and challenges in contemporary education". Round Table- moderator (Moderators: Alina S. Rusu, Cristian Vasile & Nicoleta Gudea): Challenges of interdisciplinary curricula: Animal-assisted pedagogy and the applied values of human-animal interactions.

21th – 22nd of September, 2018, Autonomous University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain. The IX Spanish & I European Conference on Service-Learning in Higher Education. Oral presentation (Rusu, A.S., Costea-Barluti, C., & Iulia A. Copaci): Needs Analysis for Service-Learning Implementation at Institutional Level in Babes-Bolyai University, Romania.

3rd-6th of September, 2018, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Trainer in the 3-days workshop "Proper Reaction Kit for Prison Staff Stress Reduction Through Environmental Therapy: Experiential Learning Workshop" organized by ICPA (International Corrections & Prisons Association).

4th-7th of July, 2018, Dublin, Ireland. SWSD 2018 Conference - Social Work, Education and Social Development: Environmental and Community Sustainability I Human Solutions in Evolving Societies. Oral presentation (Rusu, A.S., Lund, S., & Davis, R.): *"Interdisciplinary Approach of Yalom's Group Therapy Factors: Educational Values of Animal-Assisted Interventions for Social Work Students"*.

25th-27th of April, 2018. CIEA2018, The Fifth International Conference on Adult Education, Iasi, Romania. Oral presentation (Rusu, A.S., & Davis, R.) *"Civic engagement of students through human-animal interactions: Ideas for an Interdisciplinary Service Learning-based curriculum"*.

10th-13th of May, 2018. International Conference of Psychology Students CISP, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation (invited speaker). Rusu, A.S.: *"Gender Diverse and Sexual Minority Students: Inclusive Policies around the World"*.

1st of December, 2017. Colloquium at Rutgers – School of Health Professions, Scotch Plains Campus, Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions, Rutgers, The State University of NJ, US. Title: *"History and Development of Student Disabilities Services in Romania & Constructing Healthy Experiences through Human-Animal Interactions for Persons with Special Needs"* (role: invited speaker).

29th of November, 2017. UN symposium - NGO Committee on the Family Event, Fathers Be Good To Your Daughters: Nurturing and Empowering the Greatness of Every Young Woman, sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Viet Nam. United Nations Headquarters New York City, US. (role: participant).

9th of November, 2017. Interprofessional Education CVA Case Conference 2017 – Public Health School Rutgers, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, US. (role: facilitator).

8th of November, 2017, Graduate School of Education, New Brunswick, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, US. Brown Bag Presentation Series: *"Re-Imagining Civic Education: Moving from Participation and Engagement to Interrogation and Innovation"*. Speaker: Nicole Mirra, PhD. (role: participant).

3rd of November, 2017. Institute for Women Leadership, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, US. Workshop *"Displaced Lives: The Threat of Violence for Refugee, Displaced and Conflict Affected Women"* (role: co-facilitator).

2nd of November, 2017, Graduate School of Education, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, US. Advancing Excellence and Equity in Education Distinguished Lecture Series: (How) Can Teaching Be a Force for Justice. (role: participant).

13th of October, 2017. Psychological Testing National Conference, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Poster presentation: Dysfunctional sexual beliefs, mother-daughter relationship and couple satisfaction in Romania – Preliminary results. (Pop, I.F. & Rusu, A.S.).

13th of October, 2017. Psychological Testing National Conference, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Oral presentation: Parenting and Sexuality Education in Romania – Adaptation of an instrument. (Pop, M.V., & Rusu, A.S.).

21th of September, 2017, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, US – Workshop “The Use of Group Methods in Classroom Teaching: The Hidden Group in the Classroom”, Dr. Lawrence Schulman, School of Social Work, University of Buffalo (role: participant).

National Congress of Psychology Students (Cognosis), the 7th Edition, 1-5 of September 2017, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Workshop: State of the art in Evolutionary Psychology: Guidelines for research and interpretations. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu

International Attachment Conference 2017, 29th of June-1st of July, London, UK. Poster presentation: A multidimensional investigation of interpersonal and human-animal attachment: Associations with empathy and anthropomorphism in Romanian cultural context. Costea-Barluti, C. & Rusu, A.S.

Academic Days of Cluj: Theoretical and applied research in Psychology and Sciences of Education (Romanian Academy, Department of Social and Humanistic Studies), 23rd of June, 2017, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation (Alina S. Rusu): „Romanian version of Attitudes toward Animals questionnaire (Turner, 2000): transcultural approach of human-animal interactions”.

Workshop Therapy and Animal Assisted Activities: Elements of education and research, 18th of June, 2017. Danubius University, Galati and Galati Therapy Animals Association. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu.

International Summer School: Multidisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Aspects of Host-Parasites Interactions, 12th-15th of June, 2017, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: Human sexual behavioral correlates and expressions in the context of host-parasite interactions: The case of *Toxoplasma gondii* (Alina. S. Rusu).

International Conference of Psychology Students, Cluj-Napoca, 12-15 of May, 2017, Romania. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu. Workshop: “On human mating strategies: How do single versus attached individuals search for partners?”

HEART Conference 2017 (Healthcare, Education and Research Talks), 8-9th of April, University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hatieganu”, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu. Lecture: “Human-Animal Interaction: From Evolutionary Significance to Interdisciplinarity”

Vivid Mind Conference 2017, 11-12th of March, University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania. Invited speaker: Alina S. Rusu. Lecture: “Interdisciplinary sparkles: Research guidelines in Evolutionary Psychology”.

International Symposium Research and Education in an Innovation Era, ISREIE 6th Edition, Arad, Romania, 8-10th of December, 2016. Keynote speaker: Alina Simona Rusu. Lecture: “Positive Human-Animal Interactions: Developing Social Responsibility and Attitudes towards Diversity in College Students”.

CHOICE Autumn Conference 2016, 2nd Edition, Bucharest, Romania, 27th of November. “Evolutionary Psychology, Cross-Cultural Measurements, Sexuality”. Invited speaker: Homosexuality – How and Why from the perspectives of Ethology and Evolutionary Psychology” (Rusu, A.S.).

CHOICE Autumn Conference 2016, 2nd Edition, Bucharest, Romania, 27th of November. “Evolutionary Psychology, Cross-Cultural Measurements, Sexuality”. Oral presentation: Indicators of seductive behavior: Evolutionary games between sexual and non-sexual” (Rusu, A.S., Andelin, E.I.).

InterFest 3rd Edition – Festival of Romanian Penitentiaries, 13th of September 2016, Bucharest, Romania. Oral presentation: Positive Human-Animal Interactions: From research to practical applicability on enhancement of human quality of life (Rusu, A.S.).

The 4th International Conference Education, Reflection, Development. 8-9 of July, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: A Transcultural Investigation of Attitudes Towards Animals between Romania and Mexico: Implication for Education and Stray Animals' Management Programs (Rusu, A.S., Ober, C.A., Mihalca, A.D., Pop, D.A., Turner, D.).

14th Triennial IAHAIO International Conference, Paris, France, 11-23 July, 2016. Poster presentation: Are stray animals a cross-cultural problem? A comparison of attitudes towards companion animals between Romania and Mexico. Rusu, A.S., Ober, C.A., Mihalca, A.D., Pop, D., Turner, D.

European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association Conference (EHBEA 2016), 5-8 April, 2016. London, UK. Poster presentation: Analysis of seductive behavior of female detainees in non-sexual contexts – An evolutionary approach (Andelin, E.A., Rusu, A.S.).

European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association Conference (EHBEA 2016), 5-8 April, 2016. London, UK. Poster presentation: Relationships between Early Maladaptive Schemas, level of couple satisfaction and individual mate potential – an Evolutionary Psychological investigation (Rusu, A.S., Dumitrescu, D.).

Animal-Assisted Activities and Therapy for Autistic Children Workshop, 13-14 November, 2015. Oral presentation: "Benefits of human-animal interactions on the socio-emotional development of autistic children", Copiii de Cristal Association, Brasov, Romania.

Service-Learning Workshop (Porticus, Vienna, Austria), 16th of November, 2015. Invited participant at the Round table on the topic "Service-learning, a holistic pedagogy. Building bridges between the Latin American and the (Eastern) European experience." (workshop organised in collaboration with CLAYSS, Argentina).

Launch of the Centre for Animal Assisted Therapy and Research of Human-Animal Interactions – Four Paws Foundation, Bucharest, Romania. 2-4 November, 2015. Invited speaker (Oral presentation): Design of healthy human-animal interactions: Education and Therapy (Rusu, A.S.).

64th IVSA International Congress: Human-Animal Interaction. Amazing Transylvania, 27th of July - 8th of August, 2015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Invited lecturer, Human animal interaction: ideas for healthy life experience and behavioural engineering.

64th IVSA International Congress: Human-Animal Interaction. Amazing Transylvania, 27th of July - 8th of August, 2015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Workshop (Rusu, A.S.): Guidelines of designing a program of animal-assisted interventions.

7th International Symposium on Special Education, 16-18 July, 2015. Zurich, Switzerland. Audient.

The 3rd International Conference Education, Reflection, Development. 3rd of July, 2015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation. Animal-Assisted Education: Constructing healthy life experiences through human-animal interactions.

1st International Conference on Non-communicable Diseases: Lessons learned from non-communicable diseases research and practice to improve population health (ICONiC), Cluj-Napoca, Romania. 19-20 May, 2015. Invited speaker (Oral presentation): Building healthy life experiences through human-animal interactions.

Student International Conference Youth Participation: Research and Psychological

Intervention in Contemporary Society, 21-22 April, 2015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Workshop (Rusu, A.S., Costea-Barluti, C.): Disability Offices – Ideas of implementing the Social Model of Disabilities in Universities.

Days of Cluj Academia (Zilele Academiei Clujene), 4th of June, 2014, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Oral presentation: Human-Animal Interactions – Interdisciplinary openings toward the enhancement of human Quality of Life.

The Fourth International Conference on Adult Education (Adult Education in Universities), 27-30th of April, 2014. Iasi. Service-Learning programs for Romanian students – an analysis of international programs and ideas of implementation Oral Presentation (in English).

Invited Speaker at Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, “Petre Andrei” University, Iasi, Romania. 28th of April, 2014. Oral presentation: Human-Animal Interactions: Animal Assisted Therapy and Activities.

EU Conference on the Welfare of Dogs and Cats, October 28, 2013. European Commission, Bruxelles, Belgium (representative of the Institute of the Research of Human-Animal Interactions and of Babes-Bolyai University).

Conference Internal Analysis of the Quality in Romanian Universities. November 1, 2013, Bucharest, Romania (representative of Babes-Bolyai University).

CNSP 2013 (National Congress of Psychology Students), November 19-23, 2013, Timisoara, Romania. Workshop: Antisexuality and asexuality – psychobiological approaches (Alina S. Rusu and Vlad C. Muresan).

Anniversary Symposium in Special Education (Transilvania Special School). October 3-6, 2013, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Workshop: Animal Assisted Activities and Therapy for persons with special needs.

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 Oral communication-Gestural Communication, 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

2018-2024 – Fulbright Ambassador / Romanian-US Fulbright Commission. Awarded in 22nd of March, 2018.

2016 – Title of Bologna Professor, awarded to ASR by the National Association of Romanian Student Organizations (ANOSR).

2016 - Institutional Excellence Award for the contribution to the Institutional Development – contribution as member in the Executive Board to the development and functioning of the Student College of Academic Performance of Babes-Bolyai University (2013-2016).

2008 - National Award (CNCIS) - ASR was awarded by the Romanian Council of Research in Higher Education (CNCSIA) with **In Hoc Signo Vinces** Price for Young Investigators (Domain: Natural Sciences).

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

March 2016 – September 2016. Online training course: Service-Learning in Higher Education. Certificate awarded by CLAYSS (Centro Latinoamericano de Aprendizaje y Servicio Solidario). Coordinators: Lorena Yaber, Luz Avruj, Jorje Sosa Rolon).

Workshop “Introduction in the audit system for accessibility for wheelchair users” (certificate of participation awarded). 30-31st of March, 2015, Bucharest, Romania. Foundation Motivation Romania.

Workshop “Activities for training for independent living”, 06-09th of April, 2015, Cluj-Napoca, Romania (organised within the project “Abilities do matter economically”, SES project). Certificate of participation awarded.

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.

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).

Training in non-invasive hormone analysis. Sept 2005. Berlin Summer School, IZW (certificate awarded);

Diagnostician (biochemist) BSE. March 2004 – Sept 2004. Prionics AG, Schlieren, Switzerland;

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).

Workshop on Self-Organization and Evolution of Social Behavior. Sept 2002. Monte Verita,

Ascona, Switzerland, Centro Stefano Franscini, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
(certificate of participation awarded).

COMMUNITY ORIENTED EVENTS

Since 2012-present: Organizer of the Day of Human-Animal Interaction event / World Animal Day – Humane education program for the awareness toward responsible ownership (two editions/ year), in collaboration with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Agricultural Science and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

2013 - 2018: Organizer of student educational event “Week of Sexual Education” (Service-Learning Program Student-4-Student, once per year) at the Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

20/03/2026

