

**STUDIILE ROMÂNEȘTI  
ÎN ANUL CENTENARULUI**

**REFERENȚI ȘTIINȚIFICI:**

**Prof. univ. dr. Roland Clark**

President of the Society for Romanian Studies,  
University of Liverpool

**Prof. univ. dr. Irina Livezeanu**

University of Pittsburgh

**Prof. univ. dr. Alexandru Gafton**

Universitatea „Alexandru Ioan Cuza“ din Iași

**Conf. univ. dr. Elena Ionescu**

Universitatea din București

**UNIVERSITATEA „OVIDIUS” DIN CONSTANȚA  
CENTRUL DE CERCETARE ȘI DEZVOLTARE PROFESIONALĂ  
„STUDIILE ROMÂNEȘTI ÎN CONTEXT INTERNAȚIONAL” (STUR)**

**VoluM coordonat de  
Marina Cap-Bun și Florentina Nicolae**

# **STUDIILE ROMÂNEȘTI ÎN ANUL CENTENARULUI**



**EDITURA UNIVERSITARĂ  
București, 2019**

Colecția FILOLOGIE

Redactor: Gheorghe Iovan  
Tehnoredactor: Ameluța Vișan  
Coperta: Monica Balaban

Editură recunoscută de Consiliul Național al Cercetării Științifice (C.N.C.S.) și inclusă de Consiliul Național de Atestare a Titlurilor, Diplomelor și Certificatelor Universitare (C.N.A.T.D.C.U.) în categoria editurilor de prestigiu recunoscut.

**Descrierea CIP a Bibliotecii Naționale a României**  
**Studiile românești în anul Centenarului** / coord.: Marina Cap-Bun,  
Florentina Nicolae. - București : Editura Universitară, 2019  
Conține bibliografie  
ISBN 978-606-28-0972-0

I. Cap-Bun, Marina (coord.)  
II. Nicolae, Florentina (coord.)

8

DOI: (Digital Object Identifier): 10.5682/9786062809720

© Toate drepturile asupra acestei lucrări sunt rezervate, nicio parte din această lucrare nu poate fi copiată fără acordul Editurii Universitare

Copyright © 2019  
Editura Universitară  
Editor: Vasile Muscalu  
B-dul. N. Bălcescu nr. 27-33, Sector 1, București  
Tel.: 021.315.32.47  
www.editurauniversitara.ro  
e-mail: redactia@editurauniversitara.ro

Distribuție: tel.: 021.315.32.47 / 07217 CARTE / 0745.200.357  
comenzi@editurauniversitara.ro  
O.P. 15, C.P. 35, București  
www.editurauniversitara.ro

## CUPRINS

Marina CAP-BUN, <i>Precizări introductive</i> .....	9
<b>Studiile românești în context internațional</b> .....	11
Roland CLARK, <i>The Society for Romanian Studies, 1973-2019: The Globalization of Academic Associational Culture</i> .....	13
Lucian Vasile BĂGIU, Felix NICOLAU, <i>Tradiția predării limbii și culturii române la universitatea din Lund</i> .....	22
Carmen DĂRĂBUȘ, <i>Studiile de românică la Universitatea „Sf. Kliment Ohridski” din Sofia</i> .....	26
Ciprian - Lucrețius SUCIU, <i>Studiile românești în Grecia – un model de integrare europeană prin cultură</i> .....	32
Alina IFTIME, <i>Promovarea limbii și culturii românești prin intermediul cursurilor oferite la Universitatea Ankara</i> .....	44
<b>Proiecte culturale și științifice</b> .....	53
Jozefina KOMPORALY, University of the Arts, London, <i>Mourning as Live Performance: An Occupation of Loss. From the Romanian ‘Toaca’ to Riveting Silence</i> .....	55
Emel ISMAIL, <i>Romanya Kültür Günü – Ziua Culturii Române la Ankara Üniversitesi</i> .....	60
Cristina OLTEANU, <i>Dincolo și dincoace de România</i> .....	64
Lucian CHIȘU, <i>Cronologia vieții literare românești (CVLR) din perspectiva informaticii – O aventură în necunoscut?</i> .....	72
Gabriela CAZACU, Marioara MIHAI, <i>Contribuții românești la dezvoltarea inteligenței emoționale</i> .....	89
<b>România în epoca Centenarului</b> .....	99
Daniel CITIRIGĂ, <i>1918 - Anul Zero în Europa Centrală</i> .....	101
Ana-Maria CERCEL, <i>Dragostea de țară în cuvânt și în faptă – Nicolae Iorga</i> .....	123
Elena-Ramona ȘERBĂNESCU, <i>Takismul în lupta pentru întregirea unității naționale românești</i> .....	131
<b>Studii literare și teatrale</b> .....	139
Elena IONESCU, <i>Cultură, polivalență, consecvență: Alexandru Ciorănescu</i> .....	141
Lăcrămioara BERECHET, <i>Vocația sacralului, o lectură iubitoare a lumii</i> .....	148
Anamaria CIOBOTARU, <i>Corespondență din exil: Mircea Eliade - Basarab Nicolescu</i> .....	155

Sorin MIHAI, <i>Proza scurtă a lui Ioan Groșan: Noi granițe ale fantasticului est-european</i> .....	163
Mihaela AIRINEI, <i>Marin Sorescu și meridianele tălmăcirii</i> .....	184
Raluca GRIGORE, <i>Rătăcirii în curcubeul lăuntric: Poe și Caragiale</i> .....	194
Mihaela CONDRAT, <i>Caragiale sau cum previzionează un clasic Anul Centenarului (Despre fake news)</i> .....	207
Ana TEIȘANU (ROTEA), <i>Familia ca incubator de maladii psihice: bovarism, histrionism și nevroză în trilogia burgheză a lui Kirițescu</i> .....	224
Șuheda ÖNAL, <i>A Bridge between Children's Literature and Literary Classics: Young Adult Literature</i> .....	233
Robert-Andrei STOICA, <i>Alexandru Lăpușneanul – Demon al romantismului sau înger al decadenței. Linii de congruență între Negruzzi și Eminescu, într-o ecuație romantică rezolvată prin metoda decadentismului</i> .....	242
<b>Atelier Matei Vișniec</b> .....	257
Marina CAP-BUN, <i>Războiul, contemporanul nostru</i> .....	259
Olga DUȚU, „ <i>Ultimele zile ale Occidentului</i> ” în viziunea lui Matei Vișniec..	276
Mirela Mihaela DOGA, <i>Ultimele zile ale Occidentului</i> .....	280
Simona-Nicoleta MINCIU, <i>Despre cuvinte. Studiu de caz – romanele „Dezordinea preventivă” și „Sindromul de panică în Orașul Luminilor” de Matei Vișniec</i> .....	291
<b>Limbă și cultură română</b> .....	303
Florentina NICOLAE, <i>Bestiarul „Didahiilor” lui Antim Ivireanul</i> .....	305
Ioana VASILOIU, <i>Instituții culturale în epoca brâncovenească</i> .....	314
Florentina-Gabriela MIHAI (RUSU), <i>Gramaticile academice românești – repere identitare în an centenar</i> .....	320
Simona PALASCA, <i>Local și universal în toponimia imaginară din basmul românesc. Metode de cercetare</i> .....	339
Cristina Ileana ILEA (ROGOJINĂ), „ <i>Fata din dafin</i> ”: de la Ovidius, la literatura românească populară și cultă .....	349
Maria OLARU, <i>Acte de comunicare non-verbală, prin câteva reacții fizice, în romanul „Istoria Ieroglifică”</i> .....	357
<b>Latinitate și romanitate</b> .....	365
Ioana COSTA, <i>Accentul latinesc: semne diacritice</i> .....	367
Joan Maria JAIME MOYA, <i>En torno a las voces camisia (camisa), camis y camisus en el latín medieval de Cataluña: un posible germanismo a través del céltico</i> .....	375
Cosmin CĂPRIOARĂ, <i>Moștenire și inovație: lat. camisia în limba română..</i>	381
<b>Interferențe culturale</b> .....	397
Daniela CRĂCIUN, Iuliana DAVID, <i>Elemente de identitate și civilizație românească în Italia în contextul migrației</i> .....	399

Corina-Mihaela APOSTOLEANU, <i>Interferențe culturale în spațiul dobrogean. Unitatea spirituală a provinciilor românești</i> .....	412
Olga KAITER, <i>Influențe culturale germane în Dobrogea</i> .....	418
<b>Date despre autori</b> .....	429





## **PRECIZĂRI INTRODUCATIVE**

Marina CAP-BUN  
Universitatea „Ovidius” din Constanța

Volumul de față reunește lucrările conferinței internaționale a Centrului de Cercetare și Dezvoltare Profesională „Studiile Românești în Context Internațional” (STUR): *Studiile românești în anul Centenarului*, care a avut loc la Universitatea „Ovidius” din Constanța, în perioada 23-24 noiembrie 2018. Este al șaptelea volum editat sub egida STUR, după: *Actualitatea lui Caragiale 1912-2012* (2012), *Junimea și impactul ei după 150 de ani* (2013), *Literatura, teatrul și filmul – În onoarea dramaturgului Matei Vișniec* (2015), *Culturi și civilizații est-europene. In memoriam Aida Todi* (2016), *Studiile românești în conterxt inter- și transdisciplinar. In memoriam Marin Mincu* (2017) și *Ovidius în România* (2018). *In memoriam Magistri Stephani Cucu*.

La un deceniu după încheierea proiectului *Studiile românești în lume*, am dorit să observăm evoluțiile noi în domeniu, starea programelor mai vechi sau mai noi de studii românești, precum și felul în care acest moment aniversar a stimulat evenimente și proiecte culturale și științifice românești la nivel național și internațional.

Ca și în cazul volumelor anterioare, textele selectate aici au fost supuse unei expertizări de specialitate, de către referenți științifici de cea mai înaltă exigență academică, cărora le mulțumim, încă o dată, pentru sprijinul acordat proiectului nostru: Prof. univ. dr. Roland Clark, President of the Society for Romanian Studies, University of Liverpool, Prof. univ. dr. Irina Livezeanu, University of Pittsburgh, Prof. univ. dr. Alexandru Gafton, Universitatea „A.I. Cuza” din Iași și Conf. univ. dr. Elena Ionescu, Universitatea din București.

O primă parte a volumului, *Studiile românești în context internațional*, ilustrează prin câteva studii de caz relevante, situația curentă a domeniului nostru predilect de cercetare. Roland Clark, President of The Society for Romanian Studies, oferă o privire diacronică asupra evoluției acestei asociații profesionale internaționale a româniștilor, în perioada 1973-2019, pe fundalul globalizării culturii academice asociative. Urmează contribuțiile unor lectori de limba română din străinătate, care vorbesc despre programele de studii românești în cadrul cărora activează: Lucian Vasile Bâgiu și Felix Nicolau abordează *Tradiția predării limbii și culturii române la universitatea din Lund*, Carmen Dărăbuș prezintă *Studiile de românistică la Universitatea Sf. Kliment Ohridski din Sofia*, Ciprian-Lucrețius Suciuc descrie *Studiile românești în Grecia ca un model de integrare europeană prin cultură*, iar Alina Ifimie vorbește despre *Promovarea limbii și culturii românești prin intermediul cursurilor oferite la Universitatea Ankara*.

Secțiunea *Proiecte culturale și științifice* grupează câteva mărturii despre evenimente cu o componentă însemnată de desemnare a valorilor românești. Astfel, Jozefina Komporaly, profesor de artele spectacolului la University of the Arts, London, se arată plăcut impresionată de participarea echipei românești la proiectul internațional *An Occupation of Loss*, Emel Ismail recenzează cu satisfacție sărbătorirea *Zilei Culturii Române la Ankara Üniversitesini*, Cristina Olteanu oferă o sinteză a câtorva evenimente românești prilejuite de Centenarul Marii Uniri, iar Lucian Chișu prezintă un proiect de mare anvergură al Institutului de Istorie și Teorie Literară „G. Călinescu” – Academia Română, *Cronologia vieții literare românești (CVLR) din perspectiva informaticii*.

Prin specificul temei alese, nu putea lipsi o privire asupra momentului Centenarului din perspectivă istorică, astfel că secțiunea *România în epoca Centenarului* grupează conferința plenară a lui Daniel Citirigă, *1918 - Anul Zero în Europa Centrală*, precum și intervențiile a două masterande participante la masa rotundă „*Momentul 1918 în publicistică și discursuri parlamentare*”.

*Studiile literare și teatrale* ocupă și în acest volum o pondere însemnată și ilustrează preocupări foarte diversificate, o parte dintre contributori fiind doctoranzi, masteranzi și chiar studenți din ciclul de licență. Spre a da doar câteva exemple, Elena Ionescu oferă o lectură incitantă a scrierilor lui Alexandru Ciorănescu, Anamaria Ciobotaru analizează corespondența dintre Mircea Eliade și Basarab Nicolescu, Sorin Mihai propune o îndrăzneț analiză a prozei lui Ioan Groșan în context est-european, Mihaela Airinei studiază traducerile din opera lui Marin Sorescu, iar Șuheda Önal, lectorul nostru de limbă turcă, ne inițiază în literatura turcă pentru copii și adolescenți. Nu lipsește nici din acest volum, „*Atelierul Matei Vișniec*”, susținut de grupul de lucru constituit în ultimii ani din Marina Cap-Bun, Olga Dușu, Mirela Doga și Simona Minciu.

Secțiunea dedicată *Limbii și culturii române* este și ea de o mare diversitate, abordând teme extrem de interesante, de la *Bestiarul „Didahiilor”* lui Antim Ivireanul (Florentina Nicolae) sau *Instituții culturale în epoca brâncovenească* (Ioana Vasiloiu), la *Gramaticile academice românești* înțelese ca *repere identitare în an centenar* (Florentina-Gabriela Mihai Rusu).

Alte studii abordează probleme de *Latinitate și romanitate*, precum studiul Ioanei Costa despre *Accentul latinesc* sau cercetările în oglindă semnate de cercetătorul spaniol Joan Maria Jaime Moya, de la Institución Milá y Fontanals–CSIC (*En torno a las voces camisa (camisa), camis y camisus en el latín medieval de Cataluña: un posible germanismo a través del céltico*) și colegul nostru Cosmin Căprioară (*Moștenire și inovație: lat. camisa în limba română*).

Nu a fost neglijată nici problema *Interferențelor culturale*, fie că este vorba de cercetarea *Elementelor de identitate și civilizație românească în Italia în contextul migrației*, realizată de Daniela Crăciun și Iuliana David, sau de spațiul dobrogean, investigat, din perspective diferite, de Corina-Mihaela Apostoleanu și Olga Kaiter.

Sperăm ca și acest tom să constituie o sursă utilă de informare, atât pentru studenți, masteranzi și doctoranzi, cât și pentru publicul larg, deja familiarizat cu volumele de studii ale centrului STUR.

**STUDIILE ROMÂNEȘTI  
ÎN CONTEXT INTERNAȚIONAL**



## **THE SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES, 1973-2019: THE GLOBALIZATION OF ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONAL CULTURE**

Roland CLARK  
SRS President  
University of Liverpool

*Augerot and Michael Impey established the Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) in 1973 as a vehicle for North American scholars to network and share their passion for Romanian language and culture. It has evolved dramatically over the past 46 years, embracing the digital age and developing new ways to engage and connect members across disciplines, career stages, and continents. As academia becomes increasingly global, the SRS has striven to integrate East European scholars into its activities and governance, transforming both Romanian and North American associational culture in the process.*

*Key words: Society for Romanian Studies; Associational culture; Volunteering; Academic organizations; East European Studies*

Established in the midst of a North American Cold War academic culture at a time when national conferences and paper newsletters were the only way many academics stayed in touch, over the last decade the Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) has expanded outside of North America involving large numbers of European scholars in its activities, and making effective use of social media and the internet to connect specialists in Romanian history, language, and culture across the globe. These transformations have not always come easily, and the organization continues to discern how best to adapt the North American associational model to a global marketplace. Academics working in a variety of contexts have different motivations and incentives for engaging with organizations such as the SRS, and activities that benefit one group may be superfluous to another. As Philip Altbach and Jane Knight note, the globalization of the academic marketplace and the increasing focus on international initiatives “tends to concentrate wealth, knowledge, and power in those already possessing these elements” (Altbach and Knight 291). The challenge for the SRS is to integrate Romanian and Moldovan scholars as equal partners in a way that empowers them within their own academic contexts, forging new norms and a new, global associational culture in the process.

When Jim Augerot and Michael Impey established the Romanian Studies Group (RSG), as it was known in 1973, they envisioned it as a way of bringing together North American academics with an interest in Romanian language and culture. Both had recently returned from Fulbright exchanges in Romania, and

Augerot writes that he wanted to maintain the connections with other specialists he had established at the 1970 conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) (Augerot). At first the RSG was made up mostly of scholars of Romanian language and literature, but it quickly expanded to embrace other disciplines such as History, Anthropology, and Political Science. It built on an established associational culture in North American academia that saw such organizations as crucial for stimulating the exchange of ideas, disseminating knowledge, and encouraging the development of personal relationships between specialists in a given field (Newman 138-139). They had a clear and well-tested formula to build on. The AAASS had been established in 1948 as part of a general push by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) to encourage knowledge of the rest of the world, and especially of Eastern Bloc countries (Burkhardt; Harris). Originally set up as an umbrella organization that provided a legal basis for the journal *Slavic Studies*, in 1960 the AAASS reorganized as a professional association (History, ASEES). Its goals were “to advance scholarly study, publication, and teaching related to the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and the Communist bloc,” and “to encourage cooperation and exchange of information among scholars and institutions concerned with Slavic, East European, and Soviet studies” (Fisher). The AAASS held its first convention in 1964, and Augerot hosted a “Conference on Romanian Language and Literature” in 1972 at the University of Washington. Impey held another conference at the University of Kentucky the following year, at which 41 inaugural members founded the RSG and elected the first officers (Michelson).

As its mission statement makes clear, the primary goal of the RSG, which was renamed the Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) in 1977, was “to promoting the professional study, criticism, and research of all aspects of Romanian culture and civilization.” This was not intentionally a Cold War project, and Augerot makes clear that his experience of Romania at the end of the 1960s was “fascinating and delightful.” He was enamored with Romanian language and culture, as were many of organization’s founding members. Indeed, North American historians of this period such as Keith Hitchins, Frederick Kellogg, and Paul Michelson were tireless in publishing English-language reviews of new Romanian books. Their goal was to build connections with specialists both inside and outside Romania in order to develop and enrich the field. A number of early RSG members had been Fulbright or IREX scholars in Romania during the 1960s and 1970s, however, and the Communist regime viewed them as potential spies (Verdery). During the 1980s representatives of Nicolae Ceaușescu’s regime pressured the SRS leadership to stop allowing discussions of post-1945 realities at its conferences. Successive presidents, Mary Ellen Fischer, Rodica Boțoman, and Walter M. Bacon Jr., refused to restrict freedom of discussion, and Romanian delegations to SRS conferences were promised, withdrawn, promised again, then absent (Michelson).

At the time, conferences were the most effective way of creating a community of like-minded academics scattered at institutions across the United States and internationally. Of the 34 SRS conferences and meetings held between

1972 and 2000, all but three were held in the United States. They accompanied a growing presence of Romanian specialists in North American academia, illustrated by the success of the Romanian Culture and Civilization Program that Rodica Boțoman began at Ohio State University in 1975, which boasted 360 students by 1980. Unable to collaborate extensively with scholars inside Romania, the SRS reached out to colleagues in France, such as Catharine Durandin, Claude Karnoouh, and Sorin Alexandrescu. The result was an international conference organized together with the Asociația Internațională de Studii Românești (AISR) at the Sorbonne in France in 1986. Selected papers from the conference were published in *The International Journal of Rumanian Studies (IJRS)*, with several SRS members joining the *IJRS* board (Michelson).

The end of Ceaușescu's dictatorship in December 1989 opened doors for further collaboration between North American specialists and their Romanian counterparts. The SRS was now able to hold conferences inside Romania itself, which it did in Iași (1993), Cluj-Napoca (1997), Suceava (2001), Constanța (2007), Sibiu (2012), and Bucharest (2015 and 2018). These were major conferences, with large numbers of panels attracting younger scholars and PhD students as well as established academics. Location did make a difference, with the Suceava conference suffering from the difficulty that many Romanian scholars were less inclined to travel to Suceava than they had been to Iași or Cluj-Napoca (Michelson). All of these conferences relied heavily on the support of local institutions, who provided rooms and helped with logistics. Despite the increasing ease of international travel and online communication, SRS conferences continue to produce new relationships and collaborations that otherwise would never have seen the light of day.

SRS members also collaborated with other Romanian studies initiatives aimed at bringing Romanian in the United States. The SRS has been affiliated with the American Association for Southeast European Studies (AASES), now the South East European Studies Association (SEESA), since 1977, and began offering joint memberships in 2000. It held business meetings in conjunction with AAASS – now the Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) – conferences from 1978 until 2018, and organized Romanian studies panels at the annual Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) conferences. It became affiliated with the American Historical Association (AHA) in 1990, the American Political Science Association (APSA) in 2000, and the Balkan History Association (BHA) in 2019 (Michelson). The SRS helped advertise the annual conference of the Romanian Student Club at Columbia University between 2003 and 2009, as well as the annual Romanian Studies Conference that has been held at Indiana University since 2008. The Romanian Studies Association of America (RSAA) has existed as an affiliate of the Modern Language Association (MLA) since 1973, but remained separate from the SRS until 2012, when RSAA members attended the SRS conference in Sibiu. Since then the two organizations have supported each other's endeavors and offer a joint membership. Organizational affiliations have allowed the SRS to promote Romanian studies initiatives wherever they might appear. Apart from the collaboration with the AISR in 1986 and the BHA in 2019,

however, such collaborations have primarily been restricted to North American associations. The SRS did introduce institutional sponsors in 2011 and organizational memberships in 2015, which allowed it to form relationships with institutions such as Ovidius University in Constanța, the Political Science Faculty at the University of Bucharest (FSPUB), the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies (ASE), and the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA). These collaborations have primarily focused on advertising the partner organizations in SRS newsletters, rather than producing new scholarly initiatives.

Alongside conferences, newsletters were the primary way that SRS members kept in touch for several decades. Jim Augerot and Radu Florescu edited RSG newsletters for the first four years, until Paul Michelson took over in 1977. Michelson stayed on as the newsletter editor until 2007, producing and mailing roughly 60 issues – two every year (Michelson). Michelson’s newsletters proved to be the backbone that held the SRS together. They included messages from the president and secretary, bringing members up to speed on recent developments within the organization, as well as obituaries for colleagues, information about conferences and events, funding opportunities, and a bibliography of recent publications. Roland Clark introduced an electronic format when he began editing the newsletter in 2011. Members now received the newsletter via email, which allowed more color, photos, and pages. In addition to the existing rubrics, academics wrote short “Soundbites” about Romanian and Moldovan politics, economics, and the arts. The Soundbites recognized that some SRS members taught about Romanian realities in the US but were not always up to date with recent developments within the country. As Lara Putnam has noted, one of the side-effects of the widespread use of digital research is that scholars can increasingly become “experts” on a field that they lack a deep knowledge of (Putnam 2016). Database searches and information that is accessible at the touch of a button mean that people no longer need to spend time searching through archives or building relationships with informants before they are able to write on a topic. Written by locals or by people who closely followed Romanian and Moldovan news, the Soundbites made US scholars conversant with changing circumstances and helped embed them in local realities. Further innovations emerged when Cristina Plămădeală and Ana Fumurescu took over in 2016. Interviews with SRS members now became a regular feature of the newsletter, as did short highlights of important new books by SRS members.

The turn to an electronic newsletter reflected a broader transition as the SRS embraced the digital revolution. Paul Michelson created a website for the SRS in 1995, the same year that commercial restrictions on internet use were first lifted and Microsoft launched the browser Internet Explorer. Ashby Crowder took over the website in 2010, sparking the first of several major overhauls of the website that took place over the next decade. Successive webmasters experimented with various platforms and designs, attempting to keep up with rapidly evolving software while ensuring it was user-friendly enough for non-specialists to update. Not only digital literacy but the ability to design and manage websites and online



payment systems such as Paypal has increasingly become crucial for scholars wanting to run international associations such as the SRS.

The SRS created a Facebook page in 2010 and has 2,799 followers in 2019. It further expanded onto Twitter, Academia.edu, and LinkedIn in 2014 and Instagram in 2019. Social media has proved an invaluable resource for connecting scholars across the world. Far more people engage with the SRS through social media than through conferences, newsletters, or email lists. Moreover, the nature of social media means that people who discover each other through the SRS page then go on to develop productive relationships independently of the organization. Whereas the newsletter invariably carries the strong voice of the editor(s), a number of different people are engaged in curating SRS social media pages. The result is a polyphony of views from diverse disciplines, geographies, and career stages. More than any other medium, social media has allowed the SRS to engage Romanian and Moldovan academics in discussions with their counterparts in North America and Western Europe. English remains the lingua franca of the SRS on social media, but increasingly posts are appearing in Romanian, German, French, and Italian, reflecting the organization's new global diversity.

In 2013 the SRS launched H-Romania as another attempt at building an online community of academics interested in Romanian studies. H-Romania exists as a H-Net network, and as such is officially separate from the SRS. Nonetheless, it was established as an SRS initiative, most advisory board members are also actively involved in the SRS, and one of its editors, R. Chris Davis, sits on the SRS Board as an ex officio member. In addition to publishing news, calls, and proposals of interest to SRS members, H-Romania actively solicits and publishes academic book reviews. As such it helps promote the best that the field has to offer and holds authors to high critical standards.

Other initiatives aimed at promoting excellence in the field include essay and book prizes, a book series, and a new journal. One of Irina Livezeanu's key agendas when she became president in 2010 was to increase the involvement of graduate students in the organization. To this end she offered free student memberships for the first year and personally invited large numbers of graduate students to join. The fruits of this policy can be seen in that every newsletter editor since 2011 has been a graduate student, as have several of the webmasters. The SRS launched its first graduate student essay prize in 2009, and has awarded one every year since, with the exception of 2016 when the committee felt that none of the submissions met the high standards expected by the prize. The first biennial book prize was awarded in 2011, and the prize has recognized seminal books in the field every two years since. In collaboration with the publisher Polirom, Irina Livezeanu and Lavinia Stan established a new SRS book series in 2015. Although the series welcomes submissions written in Romanian, all five of the books published in the "Studii Românești" collection to date have been Romanian translations of books by scholars based in the West. All have been of high quality and represent the best the field has to offer. By offering new scholarship in Romanian for a Romanian market, the SRS/Polirom series is able to enrich Romanian studies inside the country as well as abroad. Building on the success of

the book series, in 2019 the SRS launched a new *Journal of Romanian Studies*, published by Ibidem Press. The editors Lavinia Stan and Margaret Beissinger explain that the journal “considers theoretically informed manuscripts that examine political, socioeconomic and cultural developments in Romania and Moldova, the situation of their ethnic minorities and their relations with the ethnic majority, as well as the position, culture, and history of Romanians and Moldovans living outside the shifting boundaries of those countries” (Stan, Beissinger). With a rigorous peer-review process, the journal hopes to create a forum for promoting excellent article-length scholarship just as the book series has done for longer works.

In 2018 – the organization’s 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary – the interviews that Plămădeală and Fumurescu had begun in the newsletter gave way to a series entitled “45 for 45,” published in *La Punkt*, a prominent Romanian website dedicated to discussions about cultural and intellectual issues. Anca Şincan, the series editor, states that the interviews “showcase 45 junior and senior academics who are working in Western universities, centers or institutes and have devoted their research to the field of Romanian Studies, broadly conceived” (Şincan). The series has produced a number of stimulating discussions that illustrate how deeply Romanian heritage, family connections, or personal relationships have shaped the studies of foreign specialists studying Romania. Although the interviews exclusively featured scholars working in the West, they are published in Romanian and frequently carried out by scholars based in Romania, testifying to the growing presence of Romanian scholars in the organization. As the SRS shifts from being an organization rooted in North American academia and becomes truly global, it has had to confront the challenges of translating the assumptions and values of the associational culture that it grew up in onto a global stage. Many SRS members straddle Romanian and Western cultures. Living and working in the West, they nonetheless retain close family or friendship ties in Romania or Moldova. As a result, they have embraced what Katalin Szelényi and Robert Rhoads call “global citizenship,” which involves “seeking to balance social, civic, and economic rights and responsibilities in a local/national sphere of existence with those in a global/transnational domain” (Szelényi and Rhoads 2006: 42). The SRS provides a unique opportunity for the “hybridization” (Szelényi and Rhoads 2013) of Western and East European academic and professional cultures that contributes positively to all members.

Sociologists often write about social capital, or the benefits and resources that individuals can draw on from their relationships with others. Jacqueline Butcher and Christopher Einolf distinguish between “bridging” social capital and “bonding” social capital, both of which can result from involvement in organizations such as the SRS. Bridging social capital, they argue, “links people from different backgrounds,” whereas bonding social capital “strengthens the links among people of similar backgrounds” (Butcher and Einolf 8). Bridging social capital expands one’s resources and networks, while bonding social capital is often exclusionary and endogamous. As the “45 for 45” interviews demonstrate, the SRS fosters bridging relationships that have resulted in particularly fruitful research,

benefiting both individual researchers and the field as a whole. The SRS mentoring program pairs junior and senior scholars who are sometimes working within the same academic context but also helps create relationships across borders. American graduate students conducting research in Romania or Moldova for the first time, for example, can appeal to a local mentor who can provide invaluable local knowledge. Similarly, scholars based in Romania or Moldova who want to publish in Western journals or apply for fellowships abroad can benefit from the knowledge of Western academics who are familiar with the requirements of their systems. Beyond specific questions related to publishing or research, most of the 26 mentors currently participating in the program are happy to use the mentoring program as an excuse to discuss the state of the field, theoretical or methodological approaches, or issues surrounding networking and academic culture. As mentors and mentees often work in different national circumstances, the result is often a fruitful exchange of knowledge and experience that flows both ways.

The vibrancy of associational life relies both on systemic or institutional incentives and on the desire of individuals to engage with groups like the SRS (Rochester). Whereas universities in North America value involvement in para-institutional associations by recognizing contributions to SRS committees as part of staff workloads, considering them as part of promotion and tenure applications and occasionally providing resources for conference organization or other related activities, European universities are much less likely to do so. Associational life is particularly weak in post-socialist countries. Yevgenya Jenny Paturyan and Valentina Gevorgyan write that state socialism was particularly detrimental to associational life as it purposively strived to ban any autonomous social life, and instead strived to supplant it with its own structures.” The result is that even decades later, “citizens still largely believe that the state is responsible for the overall wellbeing of society. Many are reluctant to take initiative, or fail to see it as legitimate, that an association rather than a state body should do something to alleviate social ills” (Paturyan and Gevorgyan 229). According to a European Values Survey from 1999, only 9.5 percent of Romanians did unpaid work for voluntary associations also the popularity of volunteering was on the increase (Voicu, Voicu 153). Research has shown that those who do volunteer are more likely to be young people and those with more education, income, and bridging social capital (Voicu, Voicu). As the culture of higher education changes in Eastern Europe we will hopefully see a rise in systemic and institutional support for associational life. An increasing number of academics based in Romania and Moldova have become actively involved in the SRS over the past decade, including serving on the Board, as executive officers, running the “45 for 45” series, and organizing conferences. One of the key challenges for the SRS is to determine how best to harness this energy and whether SRS governance needs to change to accommodate the new environment. Meanwhile, the election of Rodica Zaharia as Vice-President and Anca Şincan as Secretary in 2019 and having people like Marina Cap-Bun, Petru Negura, and Oana Suciú on the Board is a good step in the right direction.

Although scholars such as Robert Putnam have bemoaned the apparent decline of “social capital” in the United States as fewer people volunteer or join community groups (Putnam 2000), academic associational culture remains alive and well. Despite ever increasing demands on the time and energy of academic workers, there is still a strong ethos of volunteering that allows groups such as the SRS to flourish. Such an ethos emerges from within institutional cultures and from individual personalities and belief systems. Paul Michelson, for example, whose efforts behind the scenes contributed in no small measure to the survival of the SRS over a number of decades, draws on a deeply-held commitment to “servant leadership” (Roberts) that is part of his Evangelical Christian faith. The fruit of Michelson’s ethos was several decades of voluntary work for minimal professional recognition. A comparable volunteering ethos still remains underdeveloped in Romania and Moldova, and individuals who have the time, energy, and disposition to contribute to groups such as the SRS are in the minority. Nonetheless, more and more people have come forward in recent years who are eager to engage with SRS activities, reflecting a broad sea-change in attitudes towards associational life. Paturyan and Gevorgyan write that in post-socialist contexts “volunteers report being driven by career-oriented factors such as acquisition of knowledge, development of skills, and/or gaining work experience. They also place high importance on social functions, gaining new friends, sense of community, ability to interact and spend quality time with interesting people, having fun, trying out something new, and so on. The most frequently mentioned skills gained because of volunteering are communication skills” (Paturyan and Gevorgyan 238). As more people experience the benefits of SRS involvement, it is likely that we will see an increasing number of people willing to make the sort of commitments that associational life involves. The future for the Society of Romanian Studies as a vehicle for the globalization of academic associational culture has the potential to be very bright.

### Works Cited

- “History, ASEEEES” *Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies*, aseees.org/about/history
- Altbach, Philip G., Jane Knight. “The Internationalization of Higher Education: Motivations and Realities.” *Journal of Studies in International Education*. 11.3/4 (2007): 290-305.
- Augerot, Jim. “Commemorating Forty Years of the Society for Romanian Studies.” *Society for Romanian Studies*, 2013, society4romanianstudies.org/2016/06/18/commemorating-forty-years-of-the-society-for-romanian-studies/
- Brown, Candy Gunther. *The Word in the World: Evangelical Writing, Publishing, and Reading in America, 1789-1880*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004.
- Burkhardt, Frederick. “Remarks on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ACLS.” *ACLS Newsletter (second series)* 4.2 (Summer 1994): 2-3.

- Butcher, Jacqueline, Christopher J. Einolf, "Volunteering: A Complex Social Phenomenon." *Perspectives on Volunteering: Voices from the South*. Eds. Jacqueline Butcher, Christopher J. Einolf. Basingstoke: Springer, 2017. 3-28.
- Fisher, Ralph T. *The American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies: From its Origins to 1969*. 1970, MS. [aseees.org/sites/default/files/downloads/FisherHistoryPart%201.pdf](http://aseees.org/sites/default/files/downloads/FisherHistoryPart%201.pdf)
- Harris, Chauncy D. "Russian, Slavic, and Soviet Studies in the United States: Some Memories and Notes." *Russian History/Histoire Russe* 24.4 (1997): 441-456.
- Michelson, Paul. "'To Promote Professional Study, Criticism and Research and All Aspects of Romanian Culture and Civilization': The Society for Romanian Studies at Forty." *Balkanistica* 29 (2016): 263-277.
- Newman, William M. "The Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: The Development of an Academic Society." *Review of Religious Research* 15.3 (1974): 137-151.
- Paturyan, Yevgenya Jenny, Valentina Gevorgyan. "Volunteering in Armenia: Leaving the Soviet Legacy Behind?" *Perspectives on Volunteering: Voices from the South*. Eds. Jacqueline Butcher, Christopher J. Einolf. Basingstoke: Springer, 2017. 227-244.
- Putnam, Lara. "The Transnational and the Text-Searchable: Digitized Sources and the Shadows They Cast." *American Historical Review* 121.2 (2016): 377-402.
- Putnam, Robert. *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2000.
- Roberts, Gary E. *Developing Christian Servant Leadership: Faith-Based Character Growth at Work*. Basingstoke : Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.
- Rochester, Colin. *Rediscovering Voluntary Action: The Beat of a Different Drum*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.
- Stan, Lavinia, Margaret Beissinger. "Journal of Romanian Studies." *Society for Romanian Studies*, 2018, [society4romanianstudies.org/activities-programs/journal/](http://society4romanianstudies.org/activities-programs/journal/)
- Szelényi, Katalin, Robert A. Rhoads. "Citizenship in a Global Context: The Perspectives of International Graduate Students in the United States." *Comparative Education Review*. 51.1 (2006): 25-47.
- Szelényi, Katalin, Robert A. Rhoads. "Academic Culture and Citizenship in Transitional Societies: Case Studies from China and Hungary." *Higher Education*. 66.4 (2013): 425-438.
- Șincan, Anca. "45 for 45." *Society for Romanian Studies*, 2018, [society4romanianstudies.org/activities-programs/45-for-45/](http://society4romanianstudies.org/activities-programs/45-for-45/)
- Verdery, Katherine. *My Life as a Spy: Investigations in a Secret Police File*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2018.
- Voicu, Mălina, Bogdan Voicu, "Volunteering in Romania: A Rara Avis." *The Values of Volunteering: Cross-Cultural Perspectives*. Eds. Paul Dekker, Loek Halman. New York: Kluwer Academic, 2003. 143-160.