

“Vasile Alecsandri” University from Bacău

Romanian phraseology and culture

Research on an integrated corpus of ethnolinguistic resources on nutrition

**The abstract of the habilitation paper
Domain: philology**

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The habilitation thesis describes the scientific achievements, the professional achievements obtained after being awarded the Ph.D. in Philology, in 2009 by “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iasi, under the supervision of PhD Prof. Stelian Dumistrăcel, as well as the future directions of professional, scientific or didactic development.

In the first part of the thesis, we briefly referred to the scientific path until obtaining the Ph.D. title, further detailing the research directions after obtaining the Ph.D.

Our long-term interest in studying phraseology from a cultural perspective on the basis of an integrated corpus of ethnolinguistic resources on food that we have compiled has given us the opportunity to formulate answers to complex issues of idiomacy, figurativeness and cultural motivation, considering the contributions of new technologies to linguistics. We have tried to bring evidence that the interpretation of the phraseology of nutrition, regarded as a reflex of culture, on the field of linguistic anthropology, lexicography, as well as the pragmatics of discourse, proves the capacity of these structures to illustrate linguistically fixed cognitive frameworks and cultural models, from a complex, historical, anthropological and stylistic perspective.

The solutions we have given to the questions posed by phraseology from the point of view of its cultural background have been based on a complex documentation of the popular language, corroborating data from lexicographical, ethnographic sources, cultural anthropology, with data from field research undertaken in the interdisciplinary research teams we have conducted. Interpreting the use of fixed structures in culinary recipes and free speech contexts related to food contexts and codes has proven the importance of taking into account the variables of the pragmatic-discursive space of communication in the linguistic research of the text.

We have always wanted to promote the guiding ideas of our exegesis, which is claimed from the Eugeniu Coșeriu’s doctrine of language, in dialogue, sometimes over time, with specialists of different orientations regarding phraseology exploited ethnolinguistically, lexicographically, stylistically or from the perspective of communication theories. Our entire research activity after defending the Ph.D. thesis represents not only a plea for phraseology in onomasiological projection, but also a demonstration of the possibilities of doing so. From the point of view of research management, this has been reflected in the scientific projects we have conducted over the past eight years.

The CNCSIS PN II project, PD, code. 583, *Phraseology Dictionary. The onomasiological field of human nutrition* (2010-2012) offered us the possibility to create a phraseological dictionary organized according to onomasiological criteria, the first of its kind in Romanian linguistics. Being granted a postdoctoral research contract from “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iasi, through the project POSDRU/89/1.5/S/49944 (2010-2013), gave us the opportunity to deepen our research in the field of nutrition terminology from the point of view of its etymological distribution. Both projects underpin the establishment of an integrated electronic corpus of ethnolinguistic food resources, complemented by research undertaken within the UEFISCDI project, PN-III P2-2.1-BG-2016-0390, *Digitizing Food Cultural*

Heritage. Bacau County – eCULTFOOD (2016-2018). The result of this project was a complex database, <http://ecultfood.ub.ro>, consisting of samples of spoken language reflecting recipes, codes and food behaviors, collected by field investigation from 34 villages from Bacau County by audio-video recordings, transcribed and operationalized according to terminological and ethnological criteria, among which were identified structures belonging repeated discourse. The corpus was extended by carrying out field investigations in 14 villages from Bacau County, in order to record speeches about the winter holidays within the *e-FestMemoria project. Capitalizing the immaterial heritage. Winter holidays in Bacău County*, ROCJBC 350 2017 001 12151.

All four research projects we conducted after completing the Ph.D. studies have given us the opportunity to discover some elements of innovation in the field of phraseology:

- a.** Clear definition and circumscription of the field of phraseology by delimiting the two directions of study of the corpus, from the perspective of language and from the perspective of speech, having as object of study the phraseological unity, respectively repeated discourse;
- b.** Identifying figurative constraints or conventions of constructive formal categories to phraseology, science describable and analyzed by homogeneous classes;
- c.** Identifying mechanisms in the language that act algorithmically, at the level of the phraseology of an onomasiological field such as food, mechanisms related to general principles of thought and specific cultural codes;
- d.** Postulating the relation between the terminology of a domain and its phraseology, illustrating the role of the etymology of the key term in the phraseological distribution;
- e.** Illustrating the importance of lexicographic exegesis in the foundation of the cultural direction of studying phraseological structures;
- f.** The analysis of the place of phraseology at the level of a corpus of food spoken language ethnotexts, collected by field investigation from the villages of Bacau County;
- g.** Illustrating the role of an integrated corpus of ethnolinguistic resources on nutrition in the study of phraseology and the development of semantic language analysis technologies.

All the research directions we have described are reflected in our publications. Since the Ph.D. (2009), we have published 4 volumes as single author (at B rated publishers), 1 volume in collaboration (in B-rated publishing houses), 1 chapter in thematic volume published abroad, we have edited 3 thematic issues of a scientific journal, 24 articles published in BDI-indexed journals, 10 articles in volumes (abroad), 15 articles in university annals or volumes of conferences, 3 articles published in specialized journals, and 3 reviews. We participated to 48 national/international scientific events with 42 oral communications from the field of phraseology, terminology and analysis of food discourse. We appreciate that, through our entire activity, we have gained professional prestige and recognition in affiliations to scientific/professional associations or research centers, citations of our papers or presence in databases and libraries in the country and abroad.

The second part of the thesis includes the professional, scientific and didactic career management plan, indicating the areas of research that we want to address in future work.

Our research development plans address 6 study and action directions:

- a.** Documenting and drafting a volume illustrating the Romanian contribution to the development of ethnolinguistics;
- b.** Completing an electronic edition of the *Romanian Proverbs* collection by Iuliu Zanne;
- c.** Achieving a project to streamline, through electronic technologies, the integrated food ethnolinguistic resources corpus – ICERN;
- d.** Extending the Romanian electronic database by creating a multilingual food phraseological corpus;

f. Linking the eCULTFOOD database with Europeana Collections and expanding the field investigations in all Csango villages of Moldova;

g. Valuing immaterial heritage reflected in the food discourse through the training of young specialists to facilitate the dissemination of research in the online environment and in the socio-economic field.

For each of the six major directions of development of scientific and didactic activity, we presented, in the first part of the thesis, scientific and professional achievements. The objectives we propose in this career plan aim at continuing the activities in the fields in which we are already acknowledged as a specialist, being convinced that notable achievements are obtained through further specialization and interdisciplinarity.

Through the research work conducted so far, based on a vast empirical material, we believe that we have contributed to the development of the cultural direction of phraseology, demonstrating the ability to continue and deepen the research that has been initiated. In formulating new perspectives for phraseology research from a linguistic, lexicographical or pragmatic point of view, we emphasized the necessity of an approach from the perspective of integral linguistics (as defined by Eugeniu Coseriu) as a science of culture.