

Contributors' bio_2

Mihaela Arsene has worked in adult language education for over 20 years. Her training in Romania, the UK and the USA has given her access to a range of teaching philosophies. Her PhD in adult language learning strategies, her Master of Education from University of Manchester made possible by a British Council grant, and her MA in International and Multicultural Education from University of San Francisco through a Fulbright award have provided the intellectual stimulation and inspiration for her teaching, research and writing. In addition to her long-standing academic commitment with ASE, she has dedicated time and energy to promoting intercultural and academic exchanges between the USA and Romania in her capacity as director of educational services with the Romanian-US Fulbright Commission.

Sandrine Baudry is a post-doctoral fellow in anthropology at the National Institute for Agronomic Research (INRA). She wrote her PhD thesis on the history and ethnography of community gardens in New York City, and now focuses her work on citizen stewardship of urban natural resources on the public right-of-way.

Diana Belci graduated from the Faculty of Architecture in Timisoara in 2007 and took a post at the City Hall of Timișoara. At the same time she was enrolled on the Masters programme *Rehabilitation of Architectural Environments and Surfaces* at the Faculty of Architecture in Timișoara. From October 2008 to October 2012 she was a PhD candidate with an AMPOSDRU scholarship at University of Architecture and Urbanism *Ion Mincu* Bucharest where she also was a Teaching Assistant. From October 2009 to June 2010 she was a visiting student at Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Belleville Paris. In October 2012 she received her PhD in architecture with the thesis *Urban Densification: An Equivocal Paradigm*.

Estella Antoaneta Ciobanu teaches at the Faculty of Letters, Ovidius University, Constanța, Romania. Her main academic research concerns representations of the body and gender identity in literature and early modern cartography and anatomy books. Recent publications include: *The Body Spectacular in Middle English Theatre* (București: Ed. Etnologică, 2013); *The Spectacle of the Body in Late Medieval England* (Iași: Lumen, 2012); "En-gendering Exemplarity in Early Modern Anatomical Illustration and the Fine Arts" (*Gender Studies in the Age of Globalization*, ed. Ramona Mihăilă et al.; New York: Addleton Academic Publishers, 2013); "Body Disruption, Onomastic Riddles, and the Challenge to Apollonian Identity and/as Rationality in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*" (*Change and Challenge*, ed. Murat Erdem et al.; Izmir, Turkey: Ege University Press, 2012); "Mapping the New World" (*New Directions in Travel Writing and Travel Studies*, ed. Carmen Andraș; Aachen: Shaker Verlag, 2010); "City of God? City Merchants, Bloody Trade and the Eucharist in the Croxton *Play of the Sacrament*" (*Images of the City*, ed. Agnieszka Rasmus and Magdalena Cieslak; Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2009). She is co-author, with Petru Golban, of *A Short History of Literary Criticism* (Kütahya, Turkey: Üç Mart Press, 2008).

Sorin Ciurariu graduated from the Faculty of Architecture in Timisoara. He was Chief Architect in Arad City Hall from 2004 to 2006, and Head of the Urban Planning Department in Timisoara City Hall from 2006 to 2010, and from July 2012 to the present date. He is also a PhD

candidate at the Faculty of Architecture in Timisoara and Teaching assistant at the Faculty of Architecture in Timisoara from 2000 to 2004 and at the Faculty of Landscape Architecture in Timisoara from 2000-2010.

Aneta Dybska is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of English Studies, University of Warsaw. She teaches courses in American Studies, with a focus on the 19th and 20th century American culture and social history. Her recent research engages scholarly debates on urban revitalization and gentrification, theorizations of the “right to the city” idea, as well as grassroots struggles for the urban commons against privatization and surveillance—preoccupations that have dominated urban politics from the 1970s until today. She is currently working on a book project dealing with the spatial aspect of struggles for social justice in the 1980s and 1990s.

Irina-Ana Drobot was born in 1983. She has been working as a junior teaching assistant at the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest, Department of Foreign Languages and Communications (teaching English) since October 2007. She has been a PhD candidate since October 2008 (Literary and Cultural Studies Doctoral School, University of Bucharest) and is currently working on her PhD thesis (supervisor: professor Lidia Vianu) on *Virginia Woolf and Graham Swift: The Lyrical Novel*.

Ana Maria Andreea Gaidargi graduated from the University of Bucharest, the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, in 2009 and in 2011 she obtained her MA diploma in *Applied Linguistics* with the dissertation *Article Choice in L2-English and the Fluctuation Hypothesis. A View from L1-Romanian*. She is now a Ph.D. Student at the Doctoral School of Languages and Cultural Identities, University of Bucharest and is writing her thesis on *The Acquisition of Modality in English and Romanian*, under the supervision of Professor Larisa Avram.

Violeta Negrea is a professor at Christian University “Dimitrie Cantemir” and Dean of the Faculty of Letters. She graduated the English-French section of the Faculty of Foreign Languages, the University of Bucharest and obtained her PhD in the Science of Education in 2004 with the thesis: *The Development of ESP Curriculum in Romania Higher Education System*. As she is mostly interested in the development of the students’ applied language competences, her main publications are focused on the various methods and strategies of teaching and evaluation the students’ language proficiency as a contributing factor to their professional development. She is a member of national and international professional associations, and she has been actively involved into research programmes in the domain. She is also an evaluator of university language programmes of The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS)

