

DOCTORALIA OVIDIANA

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 28 – NOVEMBER 2025



THE STUR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



The STUR Research and Professional Development Center within the Faculty of Letters, in collaboration with the **Doctoral School of Philology** and the **Doctoral School of History** of the Ovidius University of Constanța, together with the Ioan Popișteanu University Library, organized, on November 7th and 8th, the 14th edition of the STUR International Conference (Romanian Studies in an International Context), dedicated to the theme of *Eminescu's Posterity / Posteritatea lui Eminescu*. The event, held in a hybrid format, included Plenary Conferences, Literary and Cultural Research sessions, Linguistic Research, Historical Research, an Online Workshop dedicated to doctoral studies, as well as book launches.

Within the *Doctoral Studies at Ovidius University of Constanța workshop / Les études doctorales à l'Université Ovidius de Constanța*, the presentations made by Prof. habil. Monica Vlad PhD, director of IOSUD, and by Prof. habil. Marina Cap-Bun PhD, director of the Doctoral School of Philology, within the project entitled New dimensions of the expansion

of the internationalization strategy in order to increase the visibility of the UOC at the international level in the context of participation in the European University ARTEMIS, were pursued by teaching staff and students from Heidelberg University, Università degli Studi L'Orientale di Napoli, University of Ankara and University of Ostrava in the Czech Republic.

The conference was attended by teaching staff, researchers and doctoral students from numerous university centers in the country and abroad, including institutions from Germany, Italy, Turkey, the Czech Republic and Bulgaria, as well as representatives of the universities of Bucharest, Iași, Târgoviște, Ploiești, Târgu Mureș and the Gheorghe Șincai Institute. The event reaffirmed the role of the UOC Doctoral Schools in promoting Romanian studies in the international academic environment.

The conference program, which also includes the communications of the Ovidian doctoral students, can be consulted here:

https://iitere.univ-ovidius.ro/images/2025-2026/anunturi/Program%20STUR%202025%20COMPLET_ENG.pdf



The participants debated topical topics with a major impact on the quality of life, the valorization of raw materials of plant origin in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic fields, phytochemical and molecular screening, evidence-based phytotherapy, pharmacoeconomic analysis of the production and use of phytotherapeutic preparations from the spontaneous flora of Romania as a source of sustainability, efficiency and social impact, regulations on OTC drugs, food supplements and homeopathic medicine.

PhD students from the **Doctoral School of Pharmacy** participated with scientific posters produced under the coordination of doctoral supervisors and in collaboration with large teams of researchers.

Between November 21st –22nd 2025, the Faculty of Pharmacy of Ovidius University of Constanța, in partnership with the Romanian Society of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Constanța branch, organized the 8th edition of the International Symposium on Alternative and Complementary Therapies (Homeopathy/Phytotherapy).

The event, attended by the **Doctoral Schools of Pharmacy** and **Applied Sciences – Biology field** from IOSUD-UOC, was held in a hybrid format and brought together specialists, researchers representing prestigious academic, university and research institutions, as well as representatives of the private sector from Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Switzerland.

- **Alexandra Ciocan** – Bioactive compounds from common lichen species with antioxidant potential – new perspectives in phytotherapy;
- **Ana-Maria Drăgănică** – Phenolic acids of the genus *Salvia*: comparative analysis of rosmarinic and ferulic acid in species of the genus *Salvia*;
- **Marinela Fulina** – Flavonoid compounds of the species *Persicaria hydropiper* (syn. *Polygonum hydropiper* L.) – structure, biosynthesis and biological relevance.



For those of you who wish to disseminate information about an event, a topic, or research related to doctoral schools, please send your messages to doctoralia.ovidiana@gmail.com, and we can include your text in the next Newsletter.



[HTTPS://UNIV-OVIDIUS.RO/SCOLI-DOCTORALE](https://univ-ovidius.ro/scoli-doctorale)

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Learning Opportunities



RESEARCH PROJECTS IN BIOLOGY



WORKSHOP AD.AUGUSTA

Doctoral students from various doctoral schools of IOSUD-UOC participated online, on November 24th, 2025, at the workshop *Academic Research in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Synergy between Web of Science, Zotero and ChatGPT*, organized by the South-East Regional Center for Research Career Guidance – Ad.Augusta.

The event, supported by Prof. Mihaela Rus-PhD and University Lecturer. Tănase Tasește PhD, brought together expert researchers and young researchers, facilitating a valuable dialogue within the Ovidian academic community, moderated by Prof. dr. Elena Danteș PhD, director of the Ad. Augusta project.

The workshop aimed at developing practical skills for the ethical and efficient use of artificial intelligence in academic research, as well as the integration of Web of Science, Zotero and ChatGPT tools in documentation, source management, argumentative structuring and ethical writing of scientific texts.

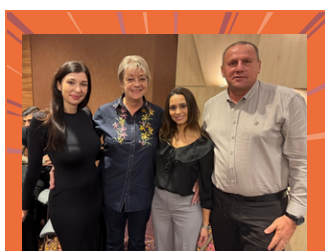
On November 25th, under the coordination of Prof. Dan Cogălniceanu, PhD, members of the Research Center of the Department of Natural Sciences presented ongoing projects, initiatives currently being funded, and future directions for collaboration.

The guest of the meeting, [Dr. Diana Szekely](#), former PhD student of the **Doctoral School of Applied Sciences, Biology**, and currently a researcher at the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (Ecuador), delivered a presentation entitled *How to survive in the dry forest? Behavioral and ecological adaptations of an amphibian from Ecuador*, in which she discussed the research activities of the university museum and the challenges of conducting research in this region.

In the PCE 31/2022 – AlpChange project, researchers and doctoral students analyzed acoustic recordings collected between 2022–2024 in the Retezat National Park with Audiomoth v.1.2 devices, archived in the Department's sound library, in collaboration with Dr. Florina Stănescu, Dr. Diana Szekely and doctoral student [Ana Maria Drăgan](#).

Also, together with Dr. Sabina Vlad and doctoral student [Teodora Tănase](#), the testing of a skeletochronology protocol was initiated on tissue samples from Ecuador, belonging to the species *Pristimantis balionotus* and *P. unistrigatus*, located in the laboratory's collection.

CONFERENCE AND CONGRESS PARTICIPATION



During October 30th and November 1st, 2025, doctoral students of the **Doctoral School of Sport Science and Physical Education (ȘDȘSEF)** participated in the *11th edition of the International Scientific Conference Physical Exercises – a complex and modern way to promote healthy living*, held in Craiova. Eight papers were accepted for publication and presentation, and these were presented during the e-poster sessions, in plenary and in the poster section.

The contributions of the professors and doctoral students of Ovidius University of Constanța were well appreciated, generating relevant discussions and premises for future collaborations.

During the plenary session, the paper *Returning to Stability: Using the HUR Platform, Proprioceptive Exercises, and Hydrotherapy in Achilles Tendon Rupture Recovery* was presented by PhD student [Erdal Arif](#) and Prof. Alin Larion PhD.



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



In this edition, the paper *Integrating Dance to Optimize Expressiveness in Aerobic Gymnastics*, carried out by PhD student [Andreea Spînu](#), together with Prof. Carmen Ene-Voiculescu PhD and Prof. Tomescu Gabriela PhD, was awarded the prize for the best PhD student paper, granted by the [International Organization for Health, Sports, and Kinesiology \(IOHSK\)](#).

The distinction reflects the quality of the research and the relevance of the topic in the context of promoting performance and expressiveness in aerobic gymnastics.

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CONFERENCE AND CONGRESS PARTICIPATION

Doctoral students from the **Doctoral School of Philology**, coordinated by Prof. habil. Angelo Mitchievici PhD, participated in the 7th edition of the *International Conference Tradition and Continuity – Language, Culture and Identity*, organized by the University of Craiova on November 21, 2025.

During the event, **Cristina Barbu (Mușat)** presented the paper *Ambiguities of Patriotic Discourse. Reading Grid of Language Functions in an Identity Context*, and **Liliana Smeu (Turosu)** gave the talk *The Complexity of Femininity in Marin Preda's Vision: Between Eros, Morality and Alienation*. Also, **Andreea-Cătălina Răcaru** presented the paper *Memory, Culture and Innovation: A Rereading of the Novel Golia by Ionel Teodoreanu*.



Doctoral student **Teodora Șoș**, in the field of **Philology**, participated in November 2025 at an event dedicated to the writer Jordan Chimet, held in Galați.

The event brought together specialists and literature enthusiasts, providing the opportunity to exchange ideas and deepen research on the author's work.



As part of the events dedicated to the Dobrogea Days, PhD student **Alexandra Răileanu-Brutaru**, from the **Doctoral School of History**, created and presented, at the temporary headquarters of the Museum of National History and Archaeology in Constanța, the exhibition *Symbols of the Spiritual Universe of Queen Maria*, organized on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the sovereign's birth. The exhibition is the result of collaboration with the National Archives of Romania and brings together a selection of images illustrating the presence of Queen Maria at the royal residences by the sea.

The doctoral student of the **Doctoral School of History**, **Nicoleta Însurățelu**, participated in November 2025 in Bucharest, at the *8th Conference of the UTCB Doctoral School & Current Ethical Challenges in Research and Higher Education*.

On November 12, at the *Ethics Symposium: Current Ethical Challenges in Research and Higher Education*, the doctoral student presented the paper *The Main Guidelines of Research Ethics in the Field of Construction History*, and on November 13, at the Doctoral School Conference, the paper *Stability of the Shores in Old Constanța*.

Thesis Defenses

PhD Student Gheorghe Iulia-Maria
Field: Philology

Title of the thesis: *Constructions of Female Empowerment in Contemporary (Recycled) Fairy Tales*

Coordinator: Professor Emeritus Adina Ciugureanu

Date of defense: 29.11.2025

PhD Student Ghencea Adrian

Field: Civil Engineering and Installations

Title of the thesis: *Contribuții privind calculul și alcătuirea silozurilor metalice pentru cereale*

Coordinator: Professor Emeritus Ana-Maria Grănescu

Date of defense: 27.11.2025

PhD Student Anghel (Cireasa) Larisa

Field: Biology

Title of the thesis: *Pesta Porcină Africană la porcii domestici și mistreți prin prisma investigațiilor folosite în cadrul laboratorului de biologie moleculară ce permit punerea în evidență a genomului viral prin tehnica Real PCR și ELISA*

Coordinator: Professor Emeritus Natalia Roșoiu

Date of defense: 15.11.2022



PhD student **Denisa-Gabriela Ion-Andrei** from the **Doctoral School of Medicine** participated in the *National Conferences of the Sections and Working Groups of the Romanian Society of Pneumology*, held between November 26th – 29th, in Bucharest, where she presented the poster titled *How much does the air we breathe matter? Air pollutants and the prognosis of lung cancer – regional experience*, carried out under the coordination of Prof. Elena Dantes, PhD.

The paper analyzed the relationship between exposure to air pollutants and the prognosis of patients with lung cancer, highlighting the impact of air quality on survival and integrating clinical, imaging and epidemiological data. The participation facilitated the exchange of experience with specialists from the country and supported interdisciplinary research in pulmonology and public health.

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Doctoral Students' Voices

Their texts are part of an interdisciplinary approach to communicating science in the online environment. Doctoral students who wish to send presentations of their research topics are invited to write to us at doctoralia.ovidiana@gmail.com. All texts are subject to an evaluation process provided by IOSUD faculty. Thank you!

Starting with this issue, the Doctoralia Ovidiana Newsletter offers doctoral students from the doctoral schools of the UOC Institute of Doctoral Studies the opportunity to present their research topics to the academic community.

HISTORY FIELD



Capitel compozit cu profilul de barbier, sec. V-VI e.n.
(Muzeul de Arheologie Calafat)

Animals of Faith in the Physical and Mental Space (of Paleo-Christian Dobrogea)

PhD Student Adrian-Mircea Ioniță

**under the coordination of prof. univ.
dr. Cătălin Pavel**

My doctoral research focuses on the study of animal figures in the architecture and inventory of Paleo-Christian basilicas from the territory of Dobrogea. I will focus on identifying the first Christian places of worship in this region and analyzing the motifs inspired by the animal world found on monuments and on various objects found in that context.

The phrase "lamb of God" which refers to Christ, is well-known, but why is the son of a deity likened to a lamb, and not to a stronger or nobler animal? Also, why is the Holy Spirit represented as a dove instead of a falcon or a swan? The answers may seem simple, yet this shows that there is a continuity of knowledge about oneself, the world and divinity obtained from relating to Nature.

The goal is to correlate the cultural-religious relationship that people had with certain categories of animals with the material traces of this relationship on the ground.

Thus, this study will bring relevant information for understanding the early Christian community on Romanian territory, both at a material and mental level.

BIOLOGY FIELD



Birds of prey – bioindicators of anthropization

PhD Student Ianula Petcu (Duță)

**under the coordination of CS III Dr.
Florina Stănescu**

My research project aims to understand how human activities influence nature, and birds of prey, at the top of the food chain, best reflect the imbalances of the ecosystems they are part of.

The study targets the *Buteo rufinus* (great buzzard), a bird of prey whose nesting range has been observed to expand in recent years and which provides essential information on the state of ecosystems.

I analyze nesting sites, reproductive success and the presence of plastic materials in nests, as well as the movements of birds tracked with GPS devices.

An innovation of the research is the acoustic analysis of nocturnal raptor species, to identify the influence of noise and human activities on their behavior.

The goal is to understand the adaptations of these species to environmental changes and protect biodiversity in Dobrogea.

NB Ongoing doctoral research project, in collaboration with the Marine Biological Station "Prof. Dr. Ioan Borcea" Agigea.

THESIS DEFENSES:



PhD Student Izvoranu (Onuc) Silvia
Field of Medicine

Thesis Title: Depresia postpartum

Coordinator: Doctor Vlad Iustin Tica
PhD

Date of defense: 04.11.2025

PhD Student Bănariu Gheorghe-Mihail
Field of Medicine

Thesis title: Analiza profilului glicemic și aplicarea tehnicilor de analiză comportamentală pentru depistarea și prevenirea depresiei în antepartum (PERSPECTIVĂ INTERDISCIPLINARĂ)

Coordinator: Doctor Vlad Iustin Tica
PhD

Date of defense: 05.11.2025

PhD Student Nichifor (Donciu) Ana-Maria-Mihaela
Domain Medicine

Title of the thesis: Refacerea peretelui abdominal după defecte parietale procedeu endolaparoscopic versus clasic

Coordinator: Prof. Ion Bordeianu PhD
Date of defense: 20.11.2025

HABILITATIONS

Habilitation in Medicine

Assoc. Prof. Bogdan Obadă PhD

Thesis title: Abordare terapeutică interdisciplinară a pacientului ortopedic

Date of defense: 24.11.2025