



STUDIA DOCTORALIA

PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCE



UNIVERSITY OF
BUCHAREST
— VIRTUTE ET SAPIENTIA —

EDITORIAL

A New Beginning

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It gives me great pleasure to write the Editorial for this first issue of 2018 of the Journal.

As is immediately visible from the significant visual rehaul, the journal is on a steep evolution, both in form and, I assure you, in content.

We were finally able to burn the historical backlog of due issues, a feat that could not have been done without the involvement and hard work of a number of colleagues and doctoral students, among who I will mention our dean, Lucian Ciolan, my colleague Oana Mosoiu who had the idea and initiative more than one year back, and my student Andreea Butucescu, who did most of the grinding work on this task. But we're there now, and expanding.

Studia Doctoralia has started 8 years ago as an in-house journal for the doctoral school. It did apparently not have any other ambition than to provide a sandbox for doctoral students in which to play before submitting their "real" papers to more prestigious journals. This was apparent from the fact that most published papers were theoretical in nature, and all were published in Romanian language.

Both these characteristics, maybe cherished by some former contributors, will now disappear. I strongly believe in the fact that science is not national, but international. Research needs to be published in order to be disseminated and exposed to critique from the scientific community. This is impossible when publishing in languages that are not read by most of this community. English is the current language of science, and English will be the language in which Studia Doctoralia will publish beginning with 2018. This will enable us to cater to a larger audience and will make research published in our journal more visible and thus hopefully more cited.

The doctoral school focuses on two broad domains: Psychology and Education. Both these domains have strong

empirical roots. While some journals permit or even encourage theoretical papers, we will take the strong empirical stance and will preferentially accept papers that base the discussion on empirical data. We believe that the scientific method is grounded on contact with reality and encourage all contributors to generate strong empirical designs in which to test their hypotheses in order to increase their chances for acceptance.

My goals for Studia Doctoralia are twofold and they are easily summed up in 2 words: impact and accessibility.

First, we are dedicated to increasing the scientific impact of the journal. Scientific impact is easily measured through scientometric indices, and our journal is dedicated to raising these indices on a 4-5 year horizon. The radical turns towards English language in our papers and towards empirical contributions are part of the tactical plan to achieve a higher scientific impact.

Second, we are dedicated to accessibility. The journal will therefore move in the online world and will embrace open-access principles. This means that papers will be freely available on the journal's website. It is an effort to publish and hard and quality work do not come free. We are blessed with an enthusiastic board of reviewers who put in quality work for little acknowledgement, as we are blessed with a dedicated leadership of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Science, who have accepted to support the Journal financially.

I look forward to a productive term as Chair of the Doctoral School in Psychology and Educational Sciences. I am always available for your comments and ideas, so never hesitate to contact me at: dragos.iliescu@fpse.unibuc.ro.