

June 26, 2015, West University of Timișoara (Romania)

International Conference on Beliefs and Behaviours in Education and Culture

Session “Where’s the Place of Dracula: (De)constructing Stereotypes”

Chair: Dr. Marius – Mircea Crișan

Contributions in alphabetical order of the presenters

Dr. Mark Benecke, International Forensic Research & Consulting, Ines Fischer, Large Subculture Study into a Central European Contemporary Vampyre Group

Stereotypes about Vlad Țepeș annoy Romanians, misconceptions about Bram Stoker's work may inspire literature and film research. A hidden manifestation of the interest in vampire-related imagery is the subcultural group of "vampyres" who feel that they share similarities with darkness-prone creatures. We present a highly standardized study among central European participants of the largest active 'sanguinarian' vampyre group, i.e., a group including blood drinkers and donors. All participants were personally known and identified. Results show that participants lack religion-like mindsets but share many character traits and biographical similarities including sleep patterns, blood drinking (or giving) and unusual identities.

Professor Raphael de Boer, Brazil, Federal University of Santa Catarina, (Gendered)Vampires Lecter and Bill in The Silence of the Lambs?

Jonathan Demme's *The Silence of the Lambs* (1992) and Thomas Harris' novel (1988, of the same name) have caught the attention of critics and film theorists due to their likeness to the Gothic genre, especially regarding the character of the cannibal Hannibal Lecter. Hence, it is my intention to examine, in light of film theory of the Gothic and Queer (Halberstam, 1996) that Hannibal Lecter's characterization recalls Bram Stoker's *Dracula* and some other vampire images in the sense that Lecter "vampirizes" his victims due to his fondness for blood. Furthermore, the metaphor of sucking people's energy (the psychological/affective game Clarice Starling in order to torture the fragile FBI agent) is also an important mark for the development of the Gothic horror in the film/novel.

PhD fellow Kristin L. Bone, Ireland, Trinity College, Location and the Vampire: The Impact of Fictional Stories upon Associated Locations

There is a strong connection between works of fiction and the real- world locations that inspired them. It is a connection which blends history and myth, reality and fiction, to create an enthralling experience for those fortunate enough to journey to these famed locals. For the reader of the vampire novel, these locations span the globe, from the mountains of Romania to the streets of New Orleans to the rainy hills of Forks, Washington, each real-world location inspires the imagination of readers. This presentation will examine the locations depicted in the fictional works of Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, Anne Rice's *The Vampire Chronicles* and Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight Saga* and the impact these works of fiction have had on the real-world locations which helped to inspire them.

Dr. Marius-Mircea Crişan, Romania, West University of Timișoara, De(constructing) the Transylvanian Stereotype: A Diachronic Perspective

Why should a region whose inhabitants have learned about vampires from films be associated with a strong belief in vampirism? Why should a country like Romania be a preferred topos for Gothic fiction? My presentation tries to explain the evolution of the association of the Romanian space with the vampire myth, from Bram Stoker to contemporary gothic literature in English. In a diachronic approach, I point to the main elements which construct and deconstruct this fictional image.

Dr. Marius-Mircea Crişan, Romania, West University of Timișoara, Again in Search of Dracula's Castle. Next destination: Hunedoara

My presentation starts with a discussion of the Transylvanian castles that inspired Bram Stoker in the construction of the most famous vampiric location. Are there any certain models and what did the novelist know about 19th century Transylvanian castles? My focus is both on Stoker's working notes for *Dracula* and on his sources for the novel. Recent work has discussed a possible influence of Hunedoara Castle. My paper tries to find pertinent answers to the question whether the association of Hunedoara Castle with the *Dracula* myth has a scientific basis or is a mere speculation.

Dr. Nicolae Hurduzeu, Romania, West University of Timișoara, Practices of Detaining the Soul of the Dead from Returning among the Living

In the villages in Banat, on the valley of Timiș river, the soul is considered very important, so that it will find peace in the world beyond. That is the reason for which when a person dies, the members of the family and the relatives will do everything possible for the soul to find its peace through different rituals in order not to haunt the living ones. Any lack of such practices will result in the unhappiness of the soul which will come back to the house where

he had lived and his presence will be felt and will bother the living ones. To protect from the soul of the dead, they will go through a series of rituals that aim at detaining the soul from returning among the living, starting with keeping signs from the dead, placing objects with magic values in the coffin and other diverse practices that happen on the day of the funeral, the day after the funeral, the second day till six weeks, all having the purpose to bring assure the peace of the soul in the world beyond.

PhD fellow Kaja Franck, U.K., University of Hertfordshire, Dracula, the Big Bad Wolf, and the Myth of Gothic Transylvania

This paper explores how Bram Stoker uses Emily Gerard's *The Land Beyond the Forest* (1888) to create a Gothicised version of Transylvania which exists outside the realms of Western experience: a landscape peopled with monstrous wolves and the lycanthropic Count Dracula. Though presented as the ultimate vampire, Dracula is both werewolf and vampire. Dracula abounds with wolfishness and Stoker builds upon Victorian ideas regarding the wilderness and animality to make the Transylvanian wolf exemplify Gothic nature. A once native species, the arrival to Britain of Count Dracula in the form of the Big Bad Wolf encapsulates the uncanny quality of Stoker's representation of Transylvania, a place from which childhood nightmares return.

Ines Fischer, Dr. Mark Benecke, Germany, International Forensic Research & Consulting, Statistical Details concerning the Current, Large-Scale Subculture Study about Central European Real-Life Vampyre Identity Groups

To determine psychological, biographical and life style parameters in a large, active, real-life vampyre subculture, we used an internet-based questionnaire with special features, including strict inclusion criteria, missing outgroup and proof of existence of all participants. We discuss to what extent the characteristics of identity groups — especially in the context of two former studies (Atlanta Vampyre Alliance (since 2006): *Vampirism & Energy Work Research Study*; Joseph Laycock (2010): *Nova Religio* 14(1):4-23) — are matched since we found no coherence in possible trauma, economical and job status, but high coherence in the time interval of personal “awakening”.

Dr. Sam George, U. K., University of Hertfordshire, Spirited Away: The Representation of Transylvania in the Pied Piper and Dracula Myth in England and Germany (1818-1922)

This paper will investigate the mythologizing of Transylvania in Germany and England through the lens of the Pied Piper and the Dracula myth. It will focus in particular on the Grimm brothers *Deutsche Sagen* (1816-18) and Browning's poetic rendering of the Piper in English in 1842. By this point, rats had made their appearance in the story, together with the

proposal that the children were taken to Transylvania. German migration to Romania and belief in transportation by necromancy are possible explanations. However, the piper can command the meaner animals and is known to have conquered 'a monstrous brood of vampire bats'. I argue that Browning's Piper anticipates Stoker's Count and conclude via Murnau's *Nosferatu* (1922), which sees the Dracula myth shifted to the German town of Bremen (1830s), there is another metaphorical plague, and rats are the again the vampiric totem animal.

Dr. Magdalena Grabias-Zurek, Poland, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Gothic and Horror in Contemporary Cinema and Television: Aesthetic Experience and Emotional Impact

Gothic tradition has left an indelible mark upon the ever-popular cinematic horror genre. One of the most beloved gothic tales, repeatedly adapted for the screen, is that of Dracula, the Transylvanian Master vampire, which, from the first silent version, has fuelled the public's fascination for the mysterious and supernatural in both cinema and TV. The aim of my article is to discuss this gothic legacy in relation to 21st century evolution of the (vampire) horror film genre, including *The Twilight Saga* and *Underworld*, and with specific focus on the visual and thematic aspects, as well as the emotional impact of modern horror films upon the understanding of a contemporary multicultural world.

Hans de Roos, Germany, Count Dracula's Address

My paper will deal with Stoker's strategy to refer to real locations, simultaneously obscuring the places where essential scenes take place. Examples: the location of Castle Dracula, the location of the Scholomance and the model for the Count's Carfax building - all directly associated with Count Dracula himself. The same mechanisms applies for the timeframe of the novel (not 1893) and the identity of the Count: the novel does not point to Vlad the Impaler but to an "other" of the Dracula race. Some examples will be added from Stoker's notes (Singleton) and from *Makt Myrkranna* (Barrington, Tellet, Varkony, Koromezzo).

Nancy Schumann, "Books with Bite", Emotion and Identity in Vampire Literature

The paper explores the representation of emotions and identity in *Dracula* and *Interview with the Vampire*. The paper focuses particularly on the differences of representation between the ages with regards to the narratives' gender roles. *Dracula* sets out on the traditional gender-role path of showing it's women as the emotional being; whereas Anne Rice's works reverse the gender-role when it comes to emotions. The paper will explore that and how this is done to open the discussion on when and why.

— From the archives of the Transylvanian Society of Dracula, German Chapter —

<http://tsdracula.org/>

West University of Timișoara
Teacher Training Department
(D.P.P.D.)

**International Conference *Beliefs and Behaviours*
in Education and Culture (BBEC)**

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

25-27 June 2015

Timișoara

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Thursday, 25 June 2015

8.00 – 9.00 Registration

CONFERENCE OPENING ADDRESS

9.00 -9.30 - Aula Magna, West University of Timișoara

Prof. Dr. Marilen Pirtea, Rector
Dr. Mădălin Bunoiu, Vice-Rector
Dr. Marius – Mircea Crișan
Dr. Roxana – Andreea Costea

PLENARY SESSION

Chairs: Dr. Marius - Mircea Crișan
Dr. Roxana - Andreea Costea

9.30-10.15

Prof. Craig Anderson (keynote speaker), *Violent Video Game Effects on Physical Aggression and Violence*

10.15 – 11.00

Prof. William Hughes (keynote speaker), *Mythical Space and Mythicized Author: Bram Stoker as a Fictional Protagonist in Modern Fiction*

Coffee break 11.00-11.30

PLENARY SESSION

Chair: Dr. Roxana - Andreea Costea

11.30-12.15

Prof. Dr. Brad Bushman (keynote speaker), *Does Venting Anger Extinguish or Feed the Flame?*

12.15-13.00

Dr. Andre Krauss (keynote speaker), *High Culture, Pop Culture: Observations Regarding the Media Effects Debate*

Lunch 13.00-14.30. Restaurant Rustic

14.30 – 16.30 Parallel sessions

Coffee break 16.30 – 16.45

16.45 – 18.45 Parallel sessions

19.00 – 20.00 Literary and cultural tour of Timișoara.

(Victory Square, Freedom Square, Union Square)

Friday, 26 June 2015

PLENARY SESSION

Chair: Dr. Marius – Mircea Crişan

9.00 - 9.45

Prof. Dr. Tullio Scrimali (keynote speaker), *Applied Neuroscience and Biofeedback in Educational Environments. New Methods for Assessment, Treatment and Self Regulation*

9.45-10.30

Prof. Dr. Donatella Badin (keynote speaker), *The Discourse of Italy in Nineteenth Century Irish Gothic Romances*

10.30 – 11.15

Dr. Duncan Light (keynote speaker), *Myth, Media and Place: Dracula and Transylvania in the British popular imagination*

Coffee break 11.15-11.30

11.30-13.30 Parallel workshops

Lunch 13.30-15.00. Restaurant Rustic

15.00-17.00 Parallel sessions

Coffee break 17.00-17.30

17.30 – 19.30 Parallel sessions

Saturday, 27 June 2015

PLENARY SESSION

Chair: Dr. Duncan Light

8.15 – 9.00 Room A01

Keynote lecture: Dr. Marius - Mircea Crişan *Again in Search of Dracula's Castle. Next Destination: Hunedoara*

9.00-21.00 One Day Conference Tour: Timișoara - Hunedoara Castle - Alba Iulia - Timișoara.

26 June, Friday

11.30 – 13.30 Parallel Workshops

<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop 1 Room: A01 11.30 – 13.30; 15.30 – 17.00 (S9)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Where's the Place of Dracula: (De)constructing Stereotypes Dr. Marius – Mircea Crişan</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop 2 Room: Aula Magna 11.30 – 13.30; 15.30 – 17.30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Applied Neuroscience And Biofeedback in Educational Environments. New Methods for Assessment, Treatment and Self Regulation Professor Tullio Scrimali</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop 3 11.30 – 13.30 Room: Aula BCU T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Empowerment and Mindfulness in Educational Environments Dr. Roxana – Andreea Costea</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop 3 Room: 302 11.30 – 13.30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Developing Civic Behaviour for the Democratic Contemporary Society through Participatory Projects Dr. Darius Borovic</p>
<p>Starting from the hypothesis that literature and myth simplify history and transform objective reality into subjective perception, we discuss the relationship between space and imagination, including the situation in which a successful literary work may transform geographic reality into story, and the visit into a way of reading.</p> <p>Case studies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marius-Mircea Crişan, <i>De(constructing) the Transylvanian Stereotype: A Diachronic Perspective</i> 2. Sam George, <i>Spirited Away: The Representation of Transylvania in the Pied Piper and Dracula Myth in England and Germany (1818-1922)</i> 3. Kaja Franck, <i>Dracula, the Big Bad Wolf, and the myth of Gothic Transylvania</i> 4. Hans de Roos, <i>Count Dracula's Address</i> 5. Kristin Bone, <i>Location and the Vampire: The Impact of Fictional Stories upon Associated Locations</i> 6. Dorota Babilas, <i>Papa Dracula: Vampires for Family Values</i> 	<p>The workshop is focused in demonstrating and discussing the important topic concerning how some recent developments of Neuroscience can be today used in order to better the intervention in any educational environments.</p> <p>During the workshop two methods, coming from Neuroscience Laboratories will be illustrated and explained. They are Quantitative EEG and Quantitative Electrodermal Activity.</p> <p>A new tool, called MindLAB Set, developed by Tullio Scrimali, will be carefully explained.</p> <p>It allows the Teacher to create some new kind of setting in the educational environment, focused on developing in any student both <i>self-knowledge</i> and <i>self control</i>.</p>	<p>The workshop focuses on beliefs related to difficulties that a teacher/trainer meets in the educational environment relations and aims to look at some ways of dealing with it by using empowerment and mindfulness strategies.</p> <p>It is desirable to build learning environments with empowered actors – both teachers/trainers and pupils/students. In this regard participants will explore their resources and use strategies to develop visions of creating such an educational environment.</p> <p>Sometimes there are strong roots of past negative experiences that lead to questioning and refusal of moving away from the negative side of the beliefs toward the positive state. When this happens it is useful to use mindfulness strategies as a part of knowledge transformation.</p>	<p>This workshop is going to explore teaching strategies, learning activities and projects that help developing civic behavior and attitudes for the future citizens of an authentic democratic society. The participants are going to share their experiences in the area of training students of all levels and citizens. The goal of the workshop is to create awareness for new teaching strategies for participatory citizenship in accordance to democratic values, to create a network of good practice and to create opportunities of project partnerships.</p>

15.00 – 17.00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Time	S.9 – Room: A01 Chair: William Hughes	S.10 - Room: 301 Chair: Liliana Donath	S.11 - Room: 302 Chair: Dana Craciun	S.12 - Room: 305 Chair: Valentin Munteanu
15.00 – 15.20	1. Nancy Schumann <i>Emotion and Identity in Vampire Literature</i>	1. Tadej Piric <i>Post-Metaphysical Ethos: "Right Values" between Relativism and Perspectivism</i>	1. Guillermo Rios <i>The Importance of Play in Early Years Development</i>	1. Osolya Kereszty <i>Language Teachers' Beliefs on Innovative Methods</i>
15.20 – 15.40	2. Mark Benecke, Ines Fischer <i>Large subculture study into a Central European contemporary vampire group</i>	2. Leterio Todaro <i>Formazione Democratica E Pedagogie Narrative: L'educazione Alla Convivenza Civile, Il Rispetto Delle Regole E Il Contrasto Alle Magfite Nella Recente Letteratura Per L'infanzia E Per Ragazzi In Italia</i>	2. Elena Raftăia <i>The Importance of Physical and Psychomotoric Education in Early Childhood.</i>	2. Pilar Colás-Bravo, Teresa González-Ramirez, Jesús Conde Jiménez& Juan De Pablos-Pons, <i>Perception of Teachers of Their Digital Competence and Their Students</i>
15.40 – 16.00	3. Ines Fischer, Mark Benecke <i>Statistical details concerning the current, large-scale subculture study about central European real-life vampire identity groups</i>	3. Liliana Eva Donath, Valentin Munteanu <i>Researching Education and Social Capital. An Integrated Perspective.</i>	3. Roza Valeeva, Aidar M. Kalinnulin <i>The Role of Parent-Child Relationship in the Formation of Primary School Children Non-violence position</i>	3. Birgit Adler-Klammer <i>Use of the Online Learning Platform Moodle in Higher Education</i>
16.00 – 16.20	4. Magdalena Grabias-Zurek <i>Gothic and Horror in Contemporary Cinema and Television: Aesthetic Experience and Emotional Impact</i>	4. Andrea Stöber <i>Opportunities of Informal Learning in the Workplace</i>	4. Simona Butnaru <i>The Partnership between Teachers and Parents in Early Education: Conflict vs Complementarity of Beliefs and Expectations</i>	4. Simona Maria Vlădica <i>Explore Medicine TV</i>
16.20 – 16.40	5. Raphael de Boer <i>(Gendered) Vampires Lecter and Bill in The Silence of the Lambs?</i>	5. Bianca Briceag <i>Quidi strategie si possono adottare, a livello di didattica, per formare i cittadini europei?</i>	5. Zvia Markovits, Helen Forgasz <i>Belet's Hold by Elementary School Students toward Mathematics</i>	5. Arianna Morini <i>Leggere a scuola sui tablet: l'importanza della familiarizzazione</i>
16.40 – 17.00	Discussions	Discussions	Discussions	Discussions