

In Memoriam Lucretia Vasilescu

August 2nd 1949 – December 17th 2020

Lucretia Vasilescu had defended a PhD thesis on Computational Linguistics in 1987. In 1991, she was a lecturer at the Department of French Language and Literature, at the Faculty of Foreign Languages on the University of Bucharest and enrolled as a student in Theology to attend „Patriarch Justinian” Faculty of Orthodox Theology in Bucharest, which had recently (1990) introduced a new program of studies that included female students. She continued to specialize in Theology by attending the courses of the Ecumenical Institute Bossey/Switzerland (1996) and took part in international inter-Christian meetings. In 1991, as the Faculty of Orthodox Theology in Bucharest had recently established a Department of Theology-Philology, she joined the academic staff of this Faculty as a professor of French language for future teachers of Religion – a subject reintroduced in the Romanian curricula after 1990. She became associate professor, then professor in 2006; as visiting professor, she also taught at Centre de Formation Pédagogique privé d’Aquitaine, France (2009, 2010, 2011); the Faculty of Orthodox Theology - „Aristotle” University, Thessaloniki, Greece (2010, 2014) and VIA University College, Viborg, Denmark (2012). She organized conferences such as „Religious Education and School Teaching” (1998); „Time and Space – a Humanistic Approach” (2005) „The Status of Religion in the School Curriculum” (2008). In 2011 she was one of the organizers of a joint international research project on „Religion Teaching and Religious Education in Schools”, collaborating with the „Aristotle” University – Thessaloniki, and the Faculty of Theology in Freiburg, Germany. She was also one of the coordinators of the Erasmus student exchange program within the Faculty of Orthodox Theology in Bucharest, and collaborated as a translator and interpreter in numerous international conferences and symposia held by the Romanian Patriarchate and the International Association of the Orthodox Dogmatic Theologians.



Prof. Lucretia Vasilescu will be remembered not only for her research and didactic activity, but also for her open spirit, her willingness to help and assist others, her deep and profound faith. She was the first among the Romanian ESWTR members to join the European Society of Women in Theological Research (2005), and she was the one to introduce the rest of the Bucharest group to the Society. For that too, we, her former students and then colleagues in the Faculty staff, owe her a debt of gratitude. We will always fondly remember her and we now pray for her repose in the Lord. Rest in peace, our dear professor and friend!

Maria Băncilă, Monica Oancă, Mădălina Toader – Bucharest