

## **Alina Branda**

Faculty of European Studies, “Babes-Bolyai” Univ. Cluj Napoca

### **Report on the Teaching Workshops**

The last two workshops had been organized as followed: *One of them* was based on discussions with students ( the four members of the research team) about the whole project: the reviews and summaries they were supposed to send to CCRIT, the topic that we had chosen, the reasons for this option.

Mainly, we tried to organize the fieldwork that we had to carry out: distribution of tasks (focusing on certain institutions and places, ways of collecting data). We also tried to establish regular meetings in order to comment on the information we got and to decide which were the next best steps to be followed.

Briefly speaking, it was a quite informal meeting, but extremely necessary for developing in good condition the whole project.

*The second one* gathered a few of RESET colleagues and it focused on the developing of critical thinking of students: strategies of implementing it, its importance. Everyone had presented personal didactic experiences in this respect. We had as guests Professor Eniko Magyari- Vincze and Professor Marius Lazar, both in the staff of the program Teaching Anthropology. Means and Meanings, who shared with us their personal views on this issue, giving us some suggestions.

### **The Students Team Activity**

I tried to have a good, permanent connection with my students that formed the research team:

- we had a few discussions about their role and duties in the framework of the project ( I announced them about the reviews or summaries they were supposed to send, we decided

together which was the best schedule for all our common activities, we shared these activities)

- as I previously mentioned, we had regular meetings, in order to analyze the data we got from fieldwork

- I invited them to participate in some of the meetings of the Institute of Cultural Anthropology, in the effort to offer them information about other anthropological research projects and to keep up their interest in the field.

### **Teaching Activity**

This year, specifically the first semester, I led the seminars on Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Anthropology of the Cultures of Transylvania (both of them had been given in the framework of the MA program in Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of European Studies, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj)

### **Comments on ReSet project.**

First of all, ReSet project facilitated us the contact with reputable specialists of the field. We had the opportunity to benefit from their academic experience and meanwhile from their experience as fieldworkers

In this respect, all the activities scheduled in the framework of the project made these things possible: the first summer school, the process of supervising the experimental research projects, participation of a few of them in our workshops.

On the other hand, we had the opportunity to work, especially in what concerned the research projects together with other ReSet fellows. In this frame, we could share opinions, which was again a great benefit.

Meanwhile, the work in team (together with our students ) was of a great benefit : the fieldwork was carried out easier, the discussions with them helped me a lot in my didactic activity (I understood better which are their doubts, demands and interests, assuming that these are more or less the same for other students).

Last but not least, I became really interested in my research project and I definitely want to deepen it in the near future.