Ileana Benga

"The Folklore Archive of the Romanian Academy" Institute in Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Report on the Third Teaching Workshop: Teaching Methods

The first two workshops have been organized together with my colleagues from Cluj Napoca.

Third workshop:

25th of May 2004, 18.00-21.00

Participants:

ILEANA BENGA, researcher, "The Folklore Archive of the Romanian Academy" Institute in Cluj-Napoca; organizer

CORINA SIRBU, researcher, "The Folklore Archive of the Romanian Academy" Institute in Cluj-Napoca; guest

BOGDAN NEAGOTA, lecturer, "Babes-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Letters; guest

OTILIA HEDESAN, professor, West University in Timisoara; guest.

Audience: a number of students from the Ethnology Division of the Faculty of Letters, UBBC.

The meeting took the shape of a round table debating the problems connected to ethnology as being practiced – both as field-research and as taught discipline of study – by the generations of ethnologists, ethnographers and folklorists before the day of today. We approached the schools in the main centers of profile in Romania, planning a series of interviews with the main actors in the history, aiming to define the trends followed by their researches and points of interest. The debate was lively enjoyed by students.

Fourth workshop:

28th of May 2004, 18.00-21.00

Participants:

ILEANA BENGA, researcher, "The Folklore Archive of the Romanian Academy" Institute in Cluj-Napoca; organizer

BOGDAN NEAGOTA, lecturer, "Babes-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Letters; guest

NICOLAE BOTH, professor, "Babes-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Letters; guest

CONSTANTIN ERETESCU, professor, USA, guest

SANDA GOLOPENTIA, professor, USA, guest.

Audience: a number of students from the Ethnology Division of the Faculty of Letters, UBBC.

The discussion focused on the importance of field-studies, as conducted by every researcher in ethnology and anthropology. We talked about the purpose and means of the latest field-research we presented, that was the one financed by HESP-CCRIT and done in Rosia Montana, Apuseni Mountains. We also approached the importance of co-involving, in collecting folkloric materials, the local interested people, as they are both local inhabitants and self-made intellectual elite, wishful to sharpen the methods of their observation and generally longing for academic advisement. We thought of the ways they might be helped with their work, a sort of 'adult tutorial' in ethnology and anthropology.