MISCELLANEA

Participation in the Seminar on Norwegian language, literature and culture, organized by the *Centre for Norwegian Studies Abroad* (SNU), University of Agder, Norway

Tradition and motivation for strengthening the Norwegian language and literature bachelor programme at the Faculty of Letters of Babeş-Bolyai University



Research on "Understanding the Factors that Have Influenced the Gradual Increase in the Number of Students who Want to be Granted a B.A. in Norwegian" was presented, in Norwegian, by the teaching staff of the Department of Scandinavian Languages and Literature of the Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj, Romania (BBU) at the international seminar for academics teaching Norwegian language, literature and culture at universities outside Norway, which took place in Kristiansand, on 25-28 August 2019. The seminar is regularly organized by the Senter for norskstudier i utlandet (SNU) (The Centre for Norwegian Studies Abroad) of the University of Agder, which operates as "a link between Norwegian academic environments at educational institutions abroad and study programmes in Norwegian language, literature and culture in Norway." The seminar was attended by 25 participants who teach Norwegian language, literature and

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culture at various universities in the Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Russia. The seminar organized every other year for the academic staff and the Norwegian lecturers is, together with the summer courses for foreign students, an essential part of SNU's activity. Thus, the role SNU plays in this context is of utmost importance for the teaching of Norwegian at overseas universities.

The Norwegian language and literature teaching and research programme at Babes-Bolyai University has enjoyed a long cooperation with SNU and the University of Agder by setting up one doctoral cotutelle agreement and a number of EEA- and Erasmus student and teaching mobilities, but also by organising visiting lectures and participating in the SNU seminars with presentations on the experience of teaching Norwegian abroad. For example, in 2017 at the Teachers' Seminar organized by The Centre for Norwegian Studies Abroad (SNU), the Scandinavian department of BBU presented a paper entitled: Utenomfaglige aktiviteter - faglig utbytte for norskundervisningen i Cluj. (Extracurricular activities – an academic gain for the teaching of Norwegian in Cluj). From previous seminars, several presentations showcasing the Norwegian language and literature study programme established in 1991 at BBU are worth mentioning here: the International ICT-project involving Gdansk University, Charles University in Prague, Babes-Bolyai University, and Vilnius University (2006), the book project in Romanian *Nuvele norvegiene.ro* (2007) - an anthology of Norwegian short-stories selected and translated by Sanda Tomescu-Baciu -, or the presentation *Formidling av norsk kultur "extra muros"* (Extramural Dissemination of Norwegian culture) (2012).

SANDA TOMESCU BACIU sanda.tomescu@yahoo.com