

VALENTIN COSMIN BLÂNDUL • MARIANA MARINESCU  
(Editors)

---

LAUDATIO to the University Professor Dr. hab. VLADIMIR GUȚU,  
on the Occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



VALENTIN COSMIN BLÂNDUL • MARIANA MARINESCU  
(Editors)



# *Laudatio*

To the University Professor Dr. hab.  
**VLADIMIR GUȚU,**  
on the Occasion of his  
**70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Descrierea CIP a Bibliotecii Naționale a României**  
**Laudatio to the university professor dr. hab. Vladimir Guțu, on the**  
**occasion of his 70th anniversary / ed.: Valentin Cosmin Blândul,**  
**Mariana Marinescu. - Bârlad : Universul Academic, 2023**  
**ISBN 978-630-6590-07-0**

I. Blândul, Valentin Cosmin (ed.)  
II. Marinescu, Mariana (ed.)

37

© EDITURA UNIVERSUL ACADEMIC, 2023  
[www.universulacademic.ro](http://www.universulacademic.ro)  
Comenzi prin e-mail: [editura@universulacademic.ro](mailto:editura@universulacademic.ro)

This volume contains some *Laudatio* presented to Mr. University Professor Dr. hab. Vladimir Guțu, on the occasion of his 70th anniversary.  
Each author assumes responsibility for the content included in the volume.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>A HUMAN LIFE INTEGRATED IN EDUCATION</b> <b>Otilia DANDARA</b> .....	11
<b>LIFE DEDICATED TO EDUCATION: HABILITED DOCTOR,</b> <b>UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU</b> <b>Viorica ANDRIȚCHI</b> .....	14
<b>VLADIMIR GUȚU or THE NEED FOR MODELS IN THE</b> <b>KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY</b> <b>Valentin Cosmin BLÂNDUL</b> .....	17
<b>VLADIMIR GUȚU – AT ANNIVERSARY TIME</b> <b>Departament of PSYCHOLOGY</b> .....	20
<b>VLADIMIR GUȚU, ETERNALLY HONORED IN OKLAHOMA</b> <b>Laurențiu ȘOITU</b> .....	23
<b>LAUDATIO TO THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR, DOCTOR</b> <b>HABILITATUS, VLADIMIR GUȚU, ON THE OCCASION</b> <b>OF THE 70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY</b> <b>Liliana POSTAN</b> .....	27
<b>PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUTU – AN OUTSTANDING</b> <b>SCIENTIST, RENOWNED PEDAGOGUE, ORGANIZER</b> <b>OF THE SCIENCE OF EDUCATION</b> <b>Valeriu VOLCOV</b> .....	30
<b>MAJOR SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTION OF PROFESSOR</b> <b>VLADIMIR GUȚU TO DEVELOPMENT OF</b> <b>EDUCATION SCIENCES</b> <b>Vasile PANICO</b> .....	35
<b>TEACHER CARRIED IN SOUL VERY DEARLY</b> <b>Maia ȘEVCIUC</b> .....	38

<b>DESTINY FULFILLED</b> Vasile COJOCARU .....	43
<b>LAUDATIO TO THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DOCTOR HABILITATE VLADIMIR GUȚU</b> Marta VICOL .....	46
<b>TO PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU, DOCTOR OF PEDAGOGY, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR, DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA</b> Mihaela-Gabriela NEACȘU .....	51
<b>EULOGY TO AN OUTSTANDING PERSONALITY FOR THE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT TO MR. VLADIMIR GUȚU, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DOCTOR HABILITATE FROM THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA</b> Vasilica BALERCĂ .....	53
<b>LAUDATIO FOR VLADIMIR GUȚU, DOCTOR HABILITATIS IN PEDAGOGICAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR, DEAN OF FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK, MOLDOVA STATE UNIVERSITY, ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY EVENT</b> Nicolae BRAGARENCO .....	56
<b>LAUDATIO – GUȚU VLADIMIR, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR</b> Maia BOROZAN .....	60
<b>MAN HAS NO NOBLER WORD TO SHOW WHO IS HE THAN HIS NAME</b> Argentina CHIRIAC .....	63
<b>THE NOBILITY OF THE TEACHER</b> Monica DECEAN .....	65
<b>LAUDATIO</b> Mihaela HUNCĂ .....	66

<b><i>LAUDATIO, IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU</i></b> <b>A HABILITATED DOCTOR IN PEDAGOGY AND DEAN</b> <b>OF THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION</b> <b>SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY, AND SCOLAR WORK</b> <b>AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA</b> <b>Alin Ioan CREȚU .....</b>	68
<b><i>LAUDATIO, IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU</i></b> <b>A HABILITATED DOCTOR IN PEDAGOGY AND DEAN</b> <b>OF THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION</b> <b>SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY, AND SCOLAR WORK</b> <b>AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA</b> <b>Crina Florica CREȚU .....</b>	70
<b>PROMOTER OF MODERN PEDAGOGY</b> <b>Simion MUSTEAȚĂ.....</b>	72
<b>SCIENCE AND SOUL</b> <b>Mariana MARINESCU.....</b>	75





## **WORD TO THE READER**

*We live in an extremely complex period in which social, cultural, pedagogical or demographic transformations are common. The digital age has brought, in addition to the undeniable benefits, a series of problems that come, first of all, from the particularly high dynamics with which changes occur in our lives. Beyond these rapid transformations, one thing remains constant – the need for stability and clear benchmarks of value. More and more members of contemporary society claim the need to return to the traditional values that have validated their relevance over time and that have led to community progress as we find it today.*

*This volume is intended to be a tribute to the permanence of values, namely the appreciation of professional and transversal skills. And because all of these had to bear a name, they were called VLADIMIR GUȚU – university professor doctor habilitate at the State University of Moldova, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. His Majesty represents a model of professional and human conduct, a vocation teacher but also an experienced researcher in pedagogical sciences, respectively an exceptional manager with achievements both in the administrative area and in the management and implementation of research projects in the educational field. In a word, it is that benchmark of stability and performance that contemporary society so desperately needs!*

*This volume is intended to be a LAUDAZZIO brought to Professor Vladimir Guțu on his birthday. In its pages were inserted the most sincere thoughts of gratitude and appreciation from its most faithful collaborators, both from the Republic of Moldova and from Romania. It will be possible to read here the appreciations of some personalities in the field of education sciences that Professor Vladimir Guțu met and influenced to a lesser or greater extent throughout his career. We express our hope that such editorial efforts will continue because we are convinced that Professor Vladimir Guțu will permanently constitute a symbol to which many students, teachers, researchers, etc. they have a duty to report back and continue to pay tribute to him for what he stood for and the role model he continues to be!*

*Valentin Cosmin BLÂNDUL  
Mariana Marinescu*

*Oradea  
1 November 2023*



## A HUMAN LIFE INTEGRATED IN EDUCATION

*Otilia DANDARA*

Prorector, Dr. hab., professor,  
State University of Moldova,  
Chişinău, Republic of Moldova  
e-mail: otiliadandara@gmail.com

The personality of Mr. Vladimir Guţu, PhD, university professor, is related to education: process and system. I think we are not at all wrong if we say that there are no major roles in education, which have not been or are not exercised by the honourable professor.

*Good student at the faculty with a pedagogical profile.* So it was, that fate directed his thoughts towards a field of professional training, which at that time was also a prestigious one for men. As a teenager, he came to college in order to find a purpose in life and to exercise a profession considered, especially in rural areas, one of fulfilment for his parents, of confirming the quality of training in the school in his native village and why not, a track launch to another level of the social state. He found himself in the world of concepts and good pedagogic practices, of trying to get in front of his disciples and decided to practice the teaching profession with a lot of commitment and motivation.

*Young specialist in the school of his native village.* With a lot of responsibility and a desire to learn from practical things, he came back to the classes he knew in the diversity of experiences he had throughout his schooling. It was an honor to be part of the collective, in which until yesterday everyone had been his teacher, but his communicative nature, his respect for the work of others, the tendency to be good at his job, determined a favorable context for the beginning of a teaching career.

*Doctoral student and scientific researcher.* The activity and communication within the professional network opened up new prospects for career development. Unknown realms of research were explored with the support of big names in the pedagogical sciences. Someone would say: „He was lucky”. Yes, maybe it would be accepted as a popular saying, but let's not forget another „Man makes his luck with his hand”. Self-sacrifice

and tenacity have been characteristics of Vladimir Guțu's personality since his youth.

*Promoter of reforms in education.* Great things don't happen by chance. Times meet man and man meets times. It is difficult to say now, if the 90s were favorable for Vladimir Guțu, or Vladimir Guțu boosted the education of the 90s. The fact is that an education reform was needed, the paradigm used until then was losing its functional validity, the world was moving forward and the accents were changing. The Republic of Moldova needed a change of accents. The scientific foundation of the curricular paradigm, the creation of the methodological framework and educational policies, required a personality with thorough training, with a prospective vision and personal charisma. Mr. Vladimir Guțu managed to combine them all and managed to achieve the reform: the emphasis was placed on goals and interactive strategies, changing the relationship between teacher and student. The effects of these accents were to be seen and felt decades from now.

*Manager in the structures of the educational system.* Vladimir Guțu is characterized by his ability to face the duties and challenges of various managerial functions: head of subdivisions within the research institute, head of department in the Ministry of Education, head of department and dean in the university environment. The change of environment did not generate emotional discomfort and professional activity, but rather it was for Vladimir Guțu a new environment, which allowed him to transfer knowledge and skills, a challenge that created favorable conditions for his professional and personal development. A remarkable aspect is the ability of Mr. Vladimir Guțu to create a favorable atmosphere for the activity of his colleagues and subordinates, a fact that demonstrates his competence as a manager focused on attitude and the promotion of the basic values of the organizational culture.

*University teaching staff.* Characteristic for an authentic didactic activity in a university environment is the ability to combine the research dimension with the teaching one. A professional achievement is the courses conceptualized by the author, based on his own scientific research, the modification of the traditional and perhaps sometimes routine design of a professional training course. Vladimir Guțu came before the students with the *Curriculum Theory discipline*, which laid the foundations, or consolidated the professional training, through which the educational policy provisions at the level of the education system of the Republic of Moldova were to be realized.

*Mentor.* On this dimension, the activity of Mr. Vladimir Guțu lists several dozen disciples, colleagues, who were guided to obtain the scientific

titles of doctor and doctor habilitate in Education Sciences. The diversity of the research topics and the difficulty of the problems addressed highlight the methodological and communication competence, which he applies in relation to doctoral students.

*Expert in educational policies.* The experience and expertise recognized at national and international level, made Vladimir Guțu one of the most requested in the management of projects or state programs oriented towards the development of educational policy documents. Good knowledge of the functioning of the educational system, as well as the special perception of the educational process, guides him towards the precise formulation of problems, challenges, but also relevant solutions for the evolution of school and education in our country.

The formulation, at a high level of generality, of the diversity of professional roles exercised by Mr. Vladimir Guțu, is rather the result of the abundance of his activity, which would by no means fit into a few pages of tribute. An active life and consistency takes shape, rather in the knowledge and recognition of his personality.

Dear Professor, an entire world knows you, a world of training, of scientific challenges, of those who believe in the shaping force of this magical social phenomenon – EDUCATION.

## **LIFE DEDICATED TO EDUCATION: HABILITED DOCTOR, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU**

*Viorica ANDRIȚCHI*

Habilitated doctor, university professor  
State University of Moldova, Chișinău,  
Republic of Moldova  
e-mail: vioandritchi@gmail.com

Since the '90s, the quality and sustainability of education in the Republic of Moldova has been conceptualized, implemented, monitored and continuously developed by the most enlightened minds of the nation, a distinct, important role being played by university professor, habilitated doctor GUȚU Vladimir.

The author's strategic vision on the development of education was the basis of the Concept of Education Development in the Republic of Moldova (1995), in order to form a humanistic, democratic, pluralistic society. The defining note of education, according to the Concept, is student-centeredness, capitalization and enrichment of creative potential based on differentiated, individualized approaches, with transdisciplinary training of divergent thinking.

*We are in 2023, 30 years away, but with similar goals!*

Based on these progressive visions, the Concept served as a theoretical foundation in the elaboration of state policy in the field of education, managerial path, new educational contents and technologies (Education Law (1995); National Program for Education Development in the Republic of Moldova: 1995-2005; Concept of modernization of education system in the Republic of Moldova (2005); Concept of Education in the Republic of Moldova (1999) etc.).

The continuity of the education development path in the period 2010-2014 was ensured by Professor GUȚU Vladimir through the activity of coordinating the process of elaboration of the Education Code (2014), the Consolidated Education Development Strategy and the Action Plan for the Education Strategy 2011-2015, the Education Development Strategy Education 2020.

In the jubilee year, 2023, Professor GUȚU Vladimir, national coordinator of the group of authors, presents to the community the National

Development Strategy Education 2030, approved by Government Decision in March this year, as a strategic document for the development of education in the Republic of Moldova for the next 10 years.

After all, at national and international level, Professor GUȚU Vladimir is recognized and appreciated as the author of the Curricular Paradigm in the Republic of Moldova, founded in 1996 in the work Theory and Methodology of Basic Curriculum Design. This is where the curricular reform in Moldova grows – the main reform in the education system that demonstrates result and impact indicators, carried out according to the main curricular policy documents in our country, coordinated by Professor GUȚU Vladimir (National Curriculum Concept (1997); Basic Curriculum Design (1998); Basic Curriculum (1999); National Curriculum Reference Framework (2017), School Curriculum Evaluation (2017); Early Education Reference Framework of the Republic of Moldova (2018); National Curriculum: concept, structure and strategic development guidelines (2020); Core curriculum: competence system for general education (2020), etc.).

The effectiveness of curricular reform was ensured through the scientific benchmarks of educational management, developed by Professor GUȚU (Change Management in the Educational Framework (2005); Quality Management (2005); Reconceptualizing educational management (2013); Curriculum Management (2013); Educational management. Scientific and methodological reference (2014); Modernization and efficiency of general education. Educational Policy Studies (2016) etc.).

In order to eliminate the discontinuity in achieving the educational ideal, Professor GUȚU Vladimir conceptualizes and coordinates the process of reforming higher education in the R. Moldova, based on his fundamental research presented in the works Theory and Methodology of the University Curriculum (2000); National Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in the Context of the Bologna Process (2005); Inter- and transdisciplinarity in initial training (2014); Reference Framework of the University Curriculum (2015); Regulatory/regulatory framework regarding the fields of professional training, specialties, qualifications and occupations: interconnection and implementation issues (2017); Reconceptualizing the evaluation of the university curriculum (2017); Connection and continuity between and between higher education cycles (2018) etc.

According to the National Bibliometric Instrument, Professor GUȚU Vladimir is the author of over 400 papers (monographs, manuals, guides, curricula, studies and scientific articles, compendiums), addressing about 369 keywords. Most scientific solutions, offered by Professor GUȚU Vladimir, belong to the fields of curriculum, curriculum management, competences, attitudes, teaching-learning-assessment, quality in education,

transdisciplinarity, pedagogical innovations, innovation transfer in education, student-centered education, interactive teaching strategies etc.

In recent years, the energy and depth of Professor Gutu Vladimir's thought has as dominant non-formal education, adult education – issues of maximum actuality at national and international level, for which the author offers scientific-practical solutions (Extracurricular Education Curriculum (2021), Reference Framework of Non-formal Adult Education: Andragogic Approach (2022); Non-formal education in the Republic of Moldova: conceptual and methodological approaches (2022) etc.).

Professor GUȚU Vladimir, in collaboration with other researchers, supports the modernization of teaching-learning-evaluation, research-innovation processes through fundamental and applied research, materialized in monographs, studies, methodological guides (Pedagogy (2013), Treatise on pedagogy (2014), University didactics (2013), Educational curriculum. Research. Development. Optimization (2014) etc.).

At the time of pedagogical disputes regarding the transition from goal-centered curriculum to competence-centered curriculum, Professor GUȚU Vladimir scientifically argues the teleological approach to educational objectives versus competences (2013); elucidates the essence of competence-centered curriculum (2014); The essence of competence as a situational, structural and methodological approach (2018).

The relevance of the scientific-methodological answers to societal challenges, offered by Professor GUȚU Vladimir in partnership with the 24 doctors and 9 doctors habilitate in educational sciences, is due to the motivating investigative framework, facilitator of scientific creativity, created by a true transformational leader, with the power of idealized influence, distinct charisma, inspirational motivation, novel strategies of intellectual stimulation, motivating determination of scientific creativity.

Professor GUȚU Vladimir, habilitated doctor, coordinates significant national projects in the field of Education Sciences („Development of educational standards for higher education”, „Theory and methodology of evaluation in higher education” (2002-present); „The conceptual, methodological and managerial framework of non-formal education in the Republic of Moldova" (2020- present) etc.).

Certainly, the entire scientific, praxiological, methodological treasure, elaborated, developed, continuously implemented by Professor GUȚU Vladimir throughout his life, represents the foundation of Education of Today and Tomorrow in our country.

The entire life course of the Scientist GUȚU Vladimir demonstrates the essence of the life of a Professional, of a Man of Value!

*With bow and gratitude.*



## **VLADIMIR GUȚU or THE NEED FOR MODELS IN THE KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY**

*Valentin Cosmin BLÂNDUL*  
University of Oradea, Romania  
e-mail: bvali73@yahoo.com

In the last few years, the entire society has gone through a series of challenges that, a decade ago, would have seemed out of the realm of the imagination. Thus, the COVID19 pandemic has changed not only the lifestyle of all citizens, but also the way they relate to their peers and the problems they face. On the other hand, the war in Ukraine (a matter which, in a superficial approach, might seem like only a local military conflict between two neighboring countries) has produced numerous negative effects at the level of the entire planet. This is due to the fact that both the pandemic and the war are not only about the medical or military aspects of the problems, but have multiple political, economic, cultural, social, demographic, etc. connotations. Disinformation, abandonment of one's own homes, social isolation, communication barriers, economic losses, limiting access to quality formal education and, in extreme cases, abandoning it, exacerbating intercultural differences, etc. there are only a few examples that can be cited in this regard. „Nothing will ever be the same again!” it seems like a verbal cliché, but in the present context, it is more relevant than ever!

These transformations influence us all and cause us to be constantly in search of our own identity. By nature, man is a social being who needs the company of others and human landmarks to relate to and whose values to internalize. Later, moral, intellectual, civic, professional values, etc. included in their own personality structures are assumed by the individual and expressed through manifest conduct in concrete situations. But what do we do when such benchmarks are constantly in motion and when, no matter how hard we try, the values proposed by society do not „fold” on our personality structure? Everything then becomes extremely fluid, and we become vulnerable to the challenges of the contemporary world.

I remember an incident I read in a book where the commander of a warship equipped with the highest standards of armament sees a bright light

ahead of him, right on the ship's course. Determined, he radios those ahead of him, identifies himself, noting all of his ship's military capabilities, and orders them to alter their course. Surprise, however, they refuse, and the commander, irritated beyond measure, repeats the order, but still without success! Several rounds of negotiations follow in which threats and refusals follow each other regularly. In the end, the commander of the battleship realizes that he has a lighthouse in front of him, and that, no matter how much it threatens him, it cannot be moved from its path!

Things are somewhat similar in life. There are times when we consider ourselves invincible and demand that everyone around us obey us. The reality, however, is much more complex and requires a more nuanced approach, as there are certain things that cannot and should not be changed. There are things that have model value for us, and in front of them it would be good to bow down and try to learn as much as possible from there. It is the same with some people who, based on their competence and accumulated experience, are real moral, intellectual, professional, civic, etc. benchmarks for their peers. and from whom they can only learn!

Such an example is Professor Vladimir Guțu from the State University of Moldova, Chisinau. I met him in 2000, when, as a young university assistant, I had arrived in Chisinau in search of new horizons of academic knowledge. Professor Vladimir Guțu was then the Director of the Directorate for Pre-University Education within the Government of the Republic of Moldova, in which capacity he was implementing a Reform Project supported by the World Bank. His lordship was kind enough to agree to be my doctoral supervisor, and from that moment began a beautiful professional collaboration and, I would dare to believe, more. The doctorate with the theme „Theoretical-methodological guidelines in didactic assessment carried out by interactive methods”, thesis defended at the State University of Moldova, Chisinau, specialization 13 00 01 - General Pedagogy, was for me an excellent opportunity to see in Professor Guțu a man always open to new directions of research in the sciences of education, always well prepared and willing to answer my questions. But beyond his excellent specialized and psychopedagogical training, I felt the fact that Professor Vladimir Guțu is also a man respected and admired by all his collaborators, who recognize his epistemic authority in all situations.

The years passed, Prof. Vladimir Guțu returned to the State University of Moldova where he was Director of the Department of Pedagogy, respectively Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, and I successfully graduated with a Doctorate in General Pedagogy in 2003. despite all this, our collaboration continued, and if until then I knew Professor Guțu as an erudite scientist, in the following years I had the

opportunity to know him as an excellent manager of successful national and international projects. The professor did me the honor of including me in the teams of several research projects such as: „The concept and methodology of achieving the connection and continuity between and within higher education cycles from the perspective of the qualifications framework and the occupation classifier”, „The conceptual framework, methodological and managerial of non-formal education in the Republic of Moldova”, „Monitoring the quality and development of education in the Republic of Moldova”, „Designing the purposes and the methodological framework regarding the structuring of higher education in three cycles” etc. At the same time, Professor Vladimir Guțu is a real mentor for his younger colleagues, having the ability to surround himself with valuable people whom he knows how to help them develop and promote.

Another chapter where Professor Vladimir Guțu excels are books and specialized articles in the field of educational sciences. Whether he was the sole author or co-author of them, the works signed by Professor Guțu bear the mark of erudition and are particularly valuable sources of information and inspiration for all those interested in contemporary pedagogy. In addition, Professor Guțu knows how to mark the important moments in his life or the institution he serves through academic events of the highest level - scientific conferences or book launches - an opportunity for all those who wish to pay tribute to him in the most distinguished setting possible.

These are just some of the thoughts that came to my mind with reference to Professor Vladimir Guțu. Trying to round off what has been exposed, I will return to the need for models that contemporary society feels more and more acutely these days. In a world in full transformation process, the need for stable value benchmarks is an essential condition for ensuring progress and quality life. Mr. Vladimir Guțu from the State University of Moldova represents such a model that the contemporary academic world needs so much, and we, those who try to get closer to him, have the duty to bow with gratitude to him and to carry on the moral, professional and personal values that he promoted with so much devotion!

*Happy and Blessed Birthday Dear Professor!*

## VLADIMIR GUȚU – AT ANNIVERSARY TIME

*DEPARTAMENT of PSYCHOLOGY*  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences,  
Sociology and Social Assistance,  
Moldova State University  
e-mail: carolina.turcanu@gmail.com

To be a respectable, professional, well-educated person with dedication to your chosen profession is undoubtedly a lifetime achievement. To change the world around through involvement and permanent work is a really important merit.

**Vladimir Guțu** is a pedagogue, university professor, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology and Social Work at the Moldova State University and Director of the Scientific Research Center „Educational and Social Policies” within the same faculty. The entire CV of Mr. Guțu tells us about a series of important positions and projects that he has handled over the years, all of which had a serious influence on the education system in the Republic of Moldova. Among them are the coordination of research activities, the design of research activities, the implementation of scientific results, the coordination of doctoral theses, the development of school textbooks and methodological guides as Deputy Director of the Institute of Education Sciences (1992-1999), development and promotion of state educational policies as Head of Department at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Republic of Moldova (2000-2001). Added to all this are countless researches, publications, organized conferences and themes presented within the latter.

Obviously, each of these activities left beautiful traces and people that are more inspired and more enthusiastic to make the school an increasingly better place for both students and teachers.

To get to the significant present of our honoree, it is important to see where his vision of education and passion for the development of educational system started. He says that it comes from his vocation and from the joy he felt in the eyes of school children since the first lessons he taught during an internship, while he was a student at the Faculty of Philology of the „Ion Creangă” Pedagogical University” from Chisinau. But

relying only on talent is neither wise, nor efficient. The effectiveness of his methods in the classroom was what Mr. Professor Guțu definitely staked on from the beginning of his career. The needle of his inner compass has always sought to see the interest and curiosity of the disciples, the passion and desire to learn more, to research and look for independently, to ask and express themselves freely and with pleasure about the aspect or problem that most interests each individual pupil.

Then doctorate studies in Moscow follow after his first years of school teaching. Within the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences there, Mr. Vladimir Guțu becomes the disciple of an erudite, high-class intellectual and gifted teacher with values worthy of the field and profession he practised and passed on to his disciples. He learned general principles about work and life from Professor Lvov, the latter was perhaps one of the sources that motivated the one who is today Professor Guțu to always keep alive his interest in research and investigation, to always find time and energy to improve himself and to multiply and adjust his knowledge of this century that is so hurried and so changing.

A perfect proof of these conclusions are the internships carried out over the years at universities and institutes around the world, such as those in England, Austria, France, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Romania, Spain, Switzerland and the USA.

Thus, we are talking about a perseverent and involved person with an increased attention to the educational environment and the well-being of those who participate in it. Such a Dean can only be a wonderful opportunity to let progress guide the study and training process in the best direction. This is manifested in the visions that a leader propagates or accepts. Although the period of his education does not at all correspond to the ideas he propagates that are much more progressive, distancing himself considerably from the clichés of those times, through this we can observe a man who can detach himself from the times and can deliberately choose his thoughts and professional direction.

Mr. Vladimir Guțu is a respectable personality not only because of his age, but especially because of his deeds. To stand out through deeds much more than to impose yourself through insistence and authoritarianism means to build a system of meritocracy. Such visions are important to be present in the personality of the one who is among the reformers of national educational system.

The merits of Professor Vladimir Guțu are also appreciated by the state, he was awarded with a number of distinctions - the „Glory of Labor”

Order, awarded by the decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova in 2012, in 2014, with the Award of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova for the development of a complex vision on the system of education sciences in 2015, with the Title Of DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA, awarded by the Institute of Education Sciences, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, in 2016 - the Medal „Through Education We Can Change the World” and the Plaque (displayed in the University of Oklahoma), included in the International Adult Education and Continuing Education Induction Hall at the event in Orlando, Florida, USA. All this is a reward that crowns and encourages both towards new heights, but also towards the sincere joy of being a fulfilled person, of having left beautiful traces, which the whole country can enjoy and which it can continue to celebrate together with their author, creating new ideas so that future generations can have an increasingly better and more efficient education.

Through this reiteration of the life course and merits of Mr. Guțu, we celebrate the importance of education and self-education, we celebrate the hard-working and involved person, we celebrate the luck of a bright destiny from which we can draw inspiration, we celebrate the joy of being contemporaries with someone who, together with other representatives of his field and generation, assumed the reformation of educational system and continues doing it through tireless work and energy invested with the same enthusiasm.

## **VLADIMIR GUȚU, ETERNALLY HONORED IN OKLAHOMA**

*Laurențiu ȘOITU*

University professor Emeritus Phd.  
„Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University IAȘI, Romania  
e-mail: soitu@uaic.ro

Since 2008, when the first concern became the inclusion of Spiru Haret in the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, Oklahoma University, USA<sup>1</sup> and other personalities from Romania<sup>2</sup>, I began to look for a representative person for the school in the Republic of Moldova, one who felt, who had experienced the continuity, the permanence of his own learning, but also that of others, who had indisputable evidence that there was no moment of separation between his thinking and action dedicated to education. I knew quite a few servants of the school, some of whom had been trained in Romanian universities, and who had been noted since then as values that could not disappear, but it was precisely they who, having found out what we were looking for, recommended Vladimir Guțu. Any conditioning I would have imposed was futile by reference to what the Professor had shown them in a few decades.

This is how Professor Vladimir Guțu became the first and, for now, the only one from the Republic of Moldova included in the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, Oklahoma University, USA, class of 2016. He received the widest and most reasoned support from his colleagues. It was only much later that I sought his permission to submit the nomination. With an attitude as restrained as it was natural to his whole demeanor, he asked me if I was sure I was looking for him. Our relationship was only strictly official, it was too little developed.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://halloffame.outreach.ou.edu/Inductions/Class-of-2014>

<sup>2</sup> <https://halloffame.outreach.ou.edu/Inductions/Class-of-2008>  
<https://halloffame.outreach.ou.edu/Inductions/Class-of-2011>  
<https://halloffame.outreach.ou.edu/Inductions/Class-of-2013>  
<https://halloffame.outreach.ou.edu/Inductions/Class-of-2015>

The recommendation, once accepted, is inscribed on a Plaquette along with the person's photo. All of these plaques are kept in a permanent exhibit on the University of Oklahoma campus.

For the LXX anniversary issue of the magazine, we reprint the text.

*Vladimir Gutu*  
*Hall of Fame Class of 2016*

*Vladimir Gutu is an active participant in initiating and promoting reform in the education of Moldova in the post-communist period. He coordinated and directly participated in drafting the 2014 Education Code and is responsible for drafting the articles of reform addressing lifelong education, professional standards in lifelong learning, and professional standards for school managers.*

*The system of continuous training of teacher's education in Moldova is largely focused on ideas and approaches offered by Guțu, namely the diversification of education, the introduction of transferable credits, the Moldovan effort to comply with the Bologna system, continued training hierarchy levels, and the correlation of individual and institutional needs in forming lifelong teacher continuing education. Through Gutu's contributions, a legal framework was created to ensure the functioning of an adult education system in Moldova. Gutu promoted the continuity and interconnection between pre-university and adult education, vocational and adult education, higher and adult education, and adult education and labor market requirements. The most important impact of these activities is the development of the adult education system according to labor market necessities and changes in the national education system.*

*Immediately after the proclamation of independence of the Republic Moldova in 1991, Gutu became a key leader who participated in the establishment of the Moldovan educational system. He outlined the role of adult education in Moldova and the teacher's continuing education. He also coordinated the organization of international scientific conferences where he presented the strategy „Higher Education and the Labor Market” for Moldova. He developed the key policy documents in 2005 when Moldovan higher education integrated the Bologna Process. He played a leading role in the last decades of his professional career as*



*president of the National Council for Curriculum, contributing to education reform in former Soviet countries and as an expert within the Committee for Educational Policies and Practice as part of the European Council.*

*Projects coordinated by Gutu are examples of best practices in adult education and contributed to the development of the adult education system and ensured effective professional training of teachers and managers. As a research coordinator for doctoral students, he studied motivation in adult education and approaches in continuous training through the interconnection of personal and institutional needs. The impact of his scholarly investigations can be seen in the initiation of scientific research on adult education, active involvement of researchers in investigating adult education, and the number of national and international projects in the field of adult education. As a result, the adult education system has been transformed thanks to Gutu's commitment balanced against European and international values<sup>3</sup>.*

We've probably talked about the event once or twice. It was certainly when I congratulated him on his return from the US. He's a person you never find overcome with too much enthusiasm. He's full of initiative, but a cautious one, very well calculated. He has a strong team, on which he relies in every action. In 2018, in the year of the Centenary of the Great Union, he engaged his faculty and the State University of Moldova to become a co-organizer of the 5th International Conference on Adult Education, 25-28 Apr, which took place for two days in Iasi and two in Chisinau. This year it will be the sole host of the 6th edition of the Conference held every four years.

He is always concerned about school - understood as a single school, from kindergarten to university. When we meet, I feel like in Romania, we talk about so many so-called reformist ministers, that we are amazed how they have left the word school in their vocabulary! To these fears he comes with his faith that the efforts of dedicated, consecrated people will not be in vain.

It is true about that powerful school, designed „to temper the stubbornness in him (from the child - our note) and transform him into a thinker, a specialist, a citizen...”, no longer spoken of, but only of „the school friendly” But who among the meritorious pupils and students was not a friend, with whom the school did not befriend so that, in the end, they could enjoy their successes together? Success comes from the hard work of every child and the pedagogical tact of influential teachers towards their

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://halloffame.outreach.ou.edu/Inductions/Class-of-2016>

pupils, their friends and their families. This is a truth that Professor Guțu always upholds.

Until the barbarism of the *online* school - not limited to online learning, *elearning* - until the *digital school* - not just digitize, often with means transferred directly from industry - the student ran to school exclusively for his colleagues and teachers! The new *Gadget*, always newer, the headset in his ears, the captivating screen, keeps him in the same unique world, if neither at home nor at school there is no one to wake him up with emotions, stronger images.

What will be the reactions of teacher Vladimir Guțu when he is superimposed the images of students from the school in the village of Căinari Vechi, Soroca district, from 1977-1980! (We don't ask, we are amazed together with his Excellency!).

What will be the experiences of this 46th year of activity! I won't ask him. I don't think he has an answer ready. He is ready for new anniversaries of the institutions he founded, he is thinking about the ongoing projects, he is concerned about the success of each series of students, doctoral students, the agenda of the Faculty ....

So, we bring only good wishes for His Lordship and for Peace!

**LAUDATIO**  
**TO THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR, DOCTOR**  
**HABILITATUS, VLADIMIR GUȚU, ON THE OCCASION**  
**OF THE 70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

*Liliana POSTAN*  
PhD, associate professor  
State University of Moldova, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova  
e-mail: cercetareim@gmail.com

To the University Professor, Doctor Habilitatus,  
Vladimir GUȚU,  
Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Sociology and Social  
Assistance of the State University of Moldova,  
International expert in the field of education of the World Bank and the Council of  
Europe, Chair of the Specialized Scientific Council for the Defense of Doctoral  
Theses and Doctorate in Pedagogy of the State University of Moldova,  
Doctor Honoris Causa of the Institute of Educational Sciences in Chisinau,  
A Celebrity in the field of adult and continuing education,  
listed in the International Hall of Fame  
(International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame)

*Dear Professor,*  
*Dear Academic Community,*

The jubilee is an honorable occasion to praise a meritorious and prodigious professional career! Professor Vladimir Guțu manages to build such a career, with elegance, simplicity, and honesty, but also with considerable impact on the people, processes, and systems he interacts with.

Professor Gutu is a skillful teacher, researcher, manager, professor, and expert. During his 46 years of professional activity, which began as a teacher at the general school in the village of Cainarii Vechi, Soroca district, Mr. Vladimir Guțu, was persistent and faithful to education and research.

He learned through practice, the activity in the classroom, the activity in the department, and the activity of basic and continuous professional

training of teaching staff: from 1977 to 1980, he worked as a teacher, getting involved in community and extracurricular activities, between the years 1983-1999, as a senior scientific researcher of the Institute of Education Sciences, he is involved in the continuous professional training of teachers, at the same time, he starts his activity of curriculum and policy development, which becomes, further, significant in his Professor career.

Mr. Guțu is the author and co-author of over 400 works (monographs, textbooks, guides, curricula, studies, scientific articles, compendiums, and normative acts) in the fields of educational policies, educational curriculum, general pedagogy, and university education pedagogy.

As the deputy director of the Institute of Educational Sciences, a position which he held between 1992-1999, Professor Vladimir Guțu laid the foundation for his activity as a researcher, manager, and doctoral coordinator. He is one of the most prodigious researchers, who coordinated the research of 24 doctors and 9 qualified doctors in the sciences of education, being president, and member of the relevant scientific seminars.

Within the course of 23 years, Professor Vladimir Guțu, as dean, has established, together with his colleagues, the Faculty of Psychology, Educational Sciences, Sociology, and Social Assistance of the State University of Moldova. Today, the Faculty includes three departments: the Department of Psychology, the Department of Educational Sciences, and the Department of Sociology and Social Assistance, which accommodate about 650 students. Within this faculty, Professor Gutu developed the Scientific Research Laboratory „Educational Policy Development”.

A significant dimension of his activity is that of an expert in the field of education, being a member of the Government Commission for the election of State secretaries, an international expert in the field of education in the Council of Europe (Commission for Educational Policies and Practices), international expert of the World Bank in the field of education and of the Council of Europe, member of the College of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova, president of the National Curriculum Council, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova, editor-in-chief of the Scientific Journal „Studia Universitatis Moldaviae”, Series „Sciences of Education”, Category B, member of the editorial boards of the journals „Training the today mankind for the world of tomorrow”, University of Oradea, Romania, „Didactica Pro ...”, „Universul Pedagogic”, Chisinau.

The merits and contribution of Mr. Vladimir Guțu to the development of education in the Republic of Moldova were noted at the national and international level by awarding the „Glory of Labor” Order, the Award of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, the title of DOCTOR HONORIS

CAUSA, awarded by the Institute of Educational Sciences in Chisinau, „Through education we can change the world” medal and inclusion in the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, Orlando, Florida, USA.

University Professor and Doctor, Vladimir GUȚU, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Sociology, and Social Assistance of the State University of Moldova, an international expert in the field of education of the World Bank and the Council of Europe, President of the Specialized Scientific Council for the defense of doctoral theses and doctorates in the pedagogy of the State University of Moldova, Doctor Honoris Causa of the Institute of Education Sciences in Chisinau, Personality included in the International Gallery of Celebrities in the field of adult education and continuing education (International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame) has a complex personality, revealed through organization, creativity, vision, determination, empathy and humor. Thanks to his significant contribution to the modernization of education in the Republic of Moldova, the development of policies in the field of education, the scientific foundation of education, the training of researchers, managerial and teaching staff, Mr. Vladimir Guțu has become one of the prodigious illuminists of our times!

*With appreciation!*

## **PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUTU – AN OUTSTANDING SCIENTIST, RENOWNED PEDAGOGUE, ORGANIZER OF THE SCIENCE OF EDUCATION**

*Valeriu VOLCOV*

Doctor of pedagogy, Director of the History Museum  
Education in the Republic of Moldova  
e-mail: volvov.vp@gmailcom

In the seventh decade of his life, Dr. habil in pedagogy, University Professor, Vladimir Gutu, comes as a fulfilled man, who, being surrounded by the love of those closest to him, successfully realized himself in his professional activity.

Professor Vladimir Gutu was born on November 11, 1953, in Cainarii-Vechi village, Soroca district, in a family of earth workers.

In 1971 Mr. Vladimir Gutu graduates from the general school in his native village, being matriculated at the State Pedagogical University „Ion Creanga” from Chisinau, faculty „Philology”, and in 1980 he follows his PhD at the Moscow Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, which he successfully completed by defending the scientific title of Doctor of pedagogy, with the theme „Methodology of coherent speech development in pupils” (1983) and the respective academic titles – Senior Researcher, Institute of Pedagogical and Psychological Sciences (1989); associate professor, (1990). In 1996 Mr. Gutu Vladimir defended the thesis of Dr. habil in pedagogy at the Institute of Education Sciences from Chisinau, entitled „Theory and methodology of basic curriculum designing in the context of education reform”, becoming in 1999 an university professor.

He benefited from internships and information visits to institutions in Romania, France (in 1997 – obtained the Diploma „L’evaluation d’un system educatif”, International Center for Pedagogical Studies in Paris), England, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, USA.

He started his professional activity in his native village as a teacher at the general school, carrying out the educational process and participating in community and extracurricular activities (1977-1980). After defending his

PhD thesis, Mr. Gutu Vladimir was hired as a senior scientific collaborator, senior scientific researcher (1983-1989), head of laboratory (1989-1992), deputy director (1992-1999) at the Institute of Education Sciences (ISE; currently, Center for continuous training and Leadership). In 1990, he was an associate professor at the State Pedagogical University „Ion Creanga” from Chisinau, where he held the courses: „General pedagogy”, „Pedagogy of university education”, „Theory and methodology of curriculum” and „Methodology of research in the educational field”.

Subsequently, after his work at ISE, he was the head of department at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (2000-2001), in the direction of promoting the educational policies of the State; head of Department of Pedagogy and Psychology, State University of Moldova (2001-2008); Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences (currently, Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology and Social Work), State University of Moldova (2008-present); Director of the Center for educational policies (currently the Center for Scientific Research „Educational and social policies”), Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Sociology and Social Work, State University of Moldova (concerns/coordinates: •Elaboration of the Center’s strategic development projects; •Ensuring the elaboration of scientific research projects; •Promotion of educational and research policies; •Managing the implementation of scientific results in practice; •Coordination of doctoral and post-doctoral studies (2006-present).

Mr. Vladimir Gutu is one of the most famous scholars in the Republic, active participant in the reform of pre-university and university education, contributing substantially to the elaboration of conceptual and normative documents in education: Conception of education in the Republic of Moldova; Education Law and Education Code of the Republic of Moldova; National Program for development of pre-university education; Manager of the education system and scientific research programs; National coordinator and consultant of State concepts and programs.

Scientific and didactic contributions: Conducting research in the field of pedagogy – establishes the scientific foundations for the development of the education system in Moldova, the importance of professional training of pedagogical and managerial staff for ensuring the quality of education; substantiates the initial and continuous professional training strategies; establishes psycho-pedagogical models for optimization and effiecientization of technological education, vocational training; presents the technology of standards development, design, evaluation and development of the school and university curriculum; didactic technologies and monitoring of education at system level and others.

He contributes to the training of young qualified teachers in the field of pedagogy, being the coordinator of doctoral theses for 25 doctors and nine Dr. habil in pedagogy and by the courses held at the initial and continuous training of specialists in pedagogy, psychology, educational management, educational marketing, etc.

He carries out additional activities in various professional groups as president, expert, member of different teams: 2003-present: President of the Specialized Scientific Council for the support of doctoral and Dr. habil theses in pedagogy, State University of Moldova; 1997-2001: Scientific Coordinator, National Council for Curriculum and Evaluation, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova; 2000-2003: Chairman of the Expert Commission under the National Council for Science and Technological Development, Chisinau; 1995-2002/2003: Member of the specialized scientific councils under the Institute of Education Sciences and the National Institute of Physical Education and Sport; 1998-2003: National trainer within the General Education Reform Project, funded by the World Bank and the Government of the Republic of Moldova; 2003-present: World Bank Expert in the field of Education; 2004-present: Member of the Assembly of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova; 2010-present: President of the National Curriculum Council, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova; 2012-present: International expert in education in the European Council; 2005-present editor-in-chief of the scientific journal „Studia Universitatis Moldaviae”, series „Education Sciences”, Category B; 2000-present: Member of the editorial boards of the journals „Education of today’s man for tomorrow’s world”, University of Oradea, Romania; „Didactica Pro ...”, Chisinau; review of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova” Pedagogical Universe”, Chisinau; Acta ET COMMENTATIONES magazine, Education Sciences series, edited by Tiraspol State University (based in Chisinau) and others.

A special place in the managerial activity of Mr. Vladimir Gutu is the activity as co-author, coordinator and educational consultant within the national and international projects realized in partnership with the Ministry of Education in the field of education and pedagogy, such as „Project of general education reform, financed by the World Bank and the Government of the Republic of Moldova” (1997-2001); project „Student – future teacher: face to face with the school”, financed by the Soros Foundation (2003); „Quality management within the University” (2007-2008); „Strategic and optional design of Education Development at the local level” (2014-2015); „Review of the Conceptual Framework for Primary and Lower Secondary Education in the Republic of Moldova” (2018); „Conceptual,



methodological and managerial framework of non-formal education in the Republic of Moldova” (2020); „Education Development Strategy for the years 2021-2030 and the Implementation program of the strategy” and others.

Organizer and participant of many national and international scientific conferences and forums in the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Czech Republic („Evaluation system in Europe”), Poland („Education for everyone”), Ireland („Education in the contemporary world”), Belarus („Problem of standards in education”) and others.

Active participant in all educational reforms carried out in education in the Republic of Moldova, coordinator of the teams for modernization of the disciplinary curriculum for all stages of education, development of educational standards for pre-university and university education, implementation of monitoring of the disciplinary curriculum, etc., Mr. Gutu Vladimir demonstrated a genuine potential not only for solving problems, but also for understanding their complexity in the contemporary and future world.

The results of his teaching and research activity can be found in over 400 papers published in the field of education and educational policies, including monographs, textbooks, curricular guides, studies and scientific articles, compendiums, normative acts: „Theory and methodology of the university curriculum” (2000), „Scientific bases of education development in the Republic of Moldova” (1998), „Change Management in the educational framework” (2005), „National strategy for the development of higher education in the context of the Bologna Process” (2005), „Conception of modernization of the education system in the Republic of Moldova” (2005), „Reference framework of the university curriculum” (2005), „Pedagogy” (2013), „University didactics. Studies of experiences” (2013), „Treaty on pedagogy – between modernism and postmodernism” (2014), „Reference framework of the National Curriculum” (2017), „Basic curriculum: competence system for general education” (2020) and others.

For fruitful activity, in line with the national distinctions awarded, Professor Vladimir Gutu, dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences (now the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Sociology and Social Work), State University of Moldova, National and international expert became the first person from the post-soviet space included in the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame and holder of the medal „Through education we can change the world” and the plaque (exhibited in the University of Oklahoma),

included in the induction Hall of international adult education and continuing education, at the event in Orlando, Florida, USA (2016).

The prodigious activity of the pedagogue, scientist, manager Vladimir Gutu perpetually exudes humanism, modesty, joviality, analytical spirit, an unprepared professional present in the university halls in front of students, master students, doctoral students, teachers, colleagues, in various scientific events, serving as a standard and model detached from everyday life, which inspires a continuous flow of optimism, vitality, creativity – in everything good, useful, beautiful, constructive.

Always looking for the new, communicative with all those around him, those who have known him for decades, for a lifetime, Mr. Vladimir Gutu enjoys a special esteem in the scientific community, the gratitude of his disciples, colleagues in everyday life.

*Happy birthday, Professor Vladimir Gutu!*

## **MAJOR SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTION OF PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU TO DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION SCIENCES**

*Vasile PANICO*

PhD in Pedagogical Sciences, University Professor,  
„Ion Creangă” State Pedagogical University from Chisinau

I had the honor to know Professor Vladimir Guțu since the beginning of the 1980s, being a candidates/PhD students at the Academy of Pedagogical Studies in Moscow. The path of scientific and didactic activity of the Professor is a consistent one in permanent change and development.

Professor Vladimir Guțu is/represents the pillar of Education Sciences in the Republic of Moldova. Vladimir Guțu is a personality who possesses high competences in integrating the didactic activity with the scientific activity. The spiritual culture of the Professor is manifested through sentimentalism and care towards the disciples, beneficial relations of collaboration and communication, responsibility, kindness and modesty.

Professor Vladimir Guțu is a remarkable personality in the development of education sciences from a theoretical-scientific and technical-constructive aspect. He became a well-known personality in the foundation and development of the national curriculum, he is a worthy example to follow for the present and future generations of researching pedagogues and university teachers. The scientific works of Mr. Vladimir Guțu have become valuable sources for the scientific and educational staff in the educational institutions of the Republic of Moldova.

The fundamental researches on the issue of national curriculum, carried out by Vladimir Guțu, outline the priority directions of the education reform in the Republic of Moldova. He founded a new direction in the sciences of education - Theory and Methodology of National Curriculum, developed the theories - educational standards, didactic technologies and strategies, the competences and objectives of education, the evaluation of learning outcomes/products, the concept of competence, the theory and methodology of relationship between the cycles of higher education, research theory and methodology, etc.

The work entitled „Educational Curriculum. Research. Development. Optimization” is a source of valoric utility for decision makers, curriculum designers, researching pedagogues, teaching staff, school managers, university teaching staff and students of psycho-pedagogical faculties. In the nominated treatise, the Professor analyzes and develops the following basic issues: the educational curriculum paradigm; the development of educational curriculum; the designing and redesigning of educational curriculum in the context of curriculum optimization; the opportunities and ways to develop the educational curriculum. In the mentioned treatise, professor Vl. Guțu determined and analyzed the foundations of educational curriculum. These are: sociological, psychological and pedagogical foundations. „The sociological foundations of curriculum presuppose the approach of specific subjects/themes regarding the selection, organization and structuring of knowledge and the connections between education and social appreciation. In this sense, two basic dimensions are identified: a) the organization and implementation of education through the curriculum; b) the existence of possible link between the type of curriculum and educational inequality”. There are several theories regarding the social foundations of curriculum. They can be divided into two categories: the first category concerns the process of change in curriculum and describes the role of factors in stages; the second category reflects the analysis of influences on curriculum.

The psychological foundations of the educational curriculum are determined by the following factors: the nature of learning; the process of thought; the learning theories; the selection of learning experiences; the psychopedagogical and social conditions of learning; the individual differences of students; the student’s personality; the teacher. Pedagogical foundations foresee/presuppose the determination of educational goals at the system level (educational ideal and key competences) and at the process level (transversal competences, specific competences). Professor Vl. Guțu analyzed and demonstrated that the curriculum as a paradigm and pedagogical category has as its object of research the educational purposes and the design of education and training. Competences represent a new reference system of educational goals structured in psychological terms (competences/meta-competences formed within the learning of school subjects; competences formed within the study of the school subject and competences formed within the learning of complex content units); in pedagogical terms, the competences are divided into key competences, transversal competences, subject-specific competences and learning unit-specific competences.

Competences, which must be formed and developed permanently in the personality of educational subject, represent a transferable and multifunctional package of knowledge, capacities, skills, abilities, values and attitudes that allow the individual to realize his/her professional fulfillment and development, social inclusion and professional insertion in the field respectively. Competence is not the result of educational action only in the cognitive field, but also relates to the affective-attitudinal one.

Mr. Vl. Guțu reconceptualized and argued for a situational approach to competences viewed from the perspective of logic of action in concrete situations, from the perspective of curriculum logic and from the perspective of learning logic. In this context, a way of taxonomic design of the competence system was proposed, focused on the degree of interconnection between different categories and types of competences, on the progressive framework of their training and development. He elucidated the theoretical benchmarks of the optimization/ development of educational curriculum. Curriculum development is part of a wider approach - the design and implementation of the educational curriculum and can be seen as a theory, as a principle and as a way of ensuring the quality of curriculum documents and educational process. Optimization represents a determining condition in ensuring the quality of educational curriculum. The efficiency of optimization/development process is determined by psychosocial, educational, logistical conditions. It is a continuous process determined by the needs and trends of the evolution of education at international and national levels.

The scientific and practical activity of Professor Vl. Guțu is also signaled by the problem of achieving interconnection, coherence and curricular continuity between higher education cycles: licentiate (bachelor's), master's, doctorate. The directing lines for the realization of this process are identified and analyzed: curriculum policies, competences/outcomes, qualifications, contents, didactic and research strategies, forms of learning. He developed a concept and a methodology for achieving interconnection, coherence and curricular continuity between higher education cycles. Continuity in the understanding of Mr. Vladimir Guțu represents „a dimension of education, which expresses its nature as a designed, organized process, with a defined value orientation”. Through continuity, education expresses its essence. Continuity is based on the linear, concentric, double-concentric and retroactive theories.

Congratulations and best wishes to Professor Vladimir Guțu on the occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## **TEACHER CARRIED IN SOUL VERY DEARLY**

*Maia ȘEVCIUC*

PhD in Pedagogical Sciences, University Professor  
Head of Education Sciences Department  
Moldova State University  
e-mail: maia.sevciuc@gmail.com

It is an honor to pay tribute to the personality of an exceptional servant of education from the Republic of Moldova with a rich teaching and academic research experience.

Professor Vladimir Guțu, at his age of 70, is part of the pleiad of great teachers, who left the mark of their complex personality on all generations of students who listened to their lectures in university centers in the country and abroad. The agility of spirit, the penetrating mind exercised in the dialectic of argumentative demonstrations, the encyclopedic training, skilled with a huge work, recommend and impose him as an undisputed authority in the field of education sciences.

Energetic and tireless in his day-to-day work, so diverse and so complex, enthusiastic and persistent in realizing both the ideas that animate him and the tasks that fall to him, responsible and demanding towards the results of his own activity and towards those of his colleagues, firm and uncompromising in the decisions he makes and in respecting them, intelligent and diplomatic in his relations with people, a model teacher, who delivers excellent lectures and seminars, enthraling the audience through his deep knowledge of the subject taught, through the accessibility of its exposition, through the attractive and affective form, appreciating them at their fair value, encouraging them, cultivating their love for studies and hope for a better future - these are the impressions left by Mr. Vladimir Guțu, Habilitated PhD in Pedagogical Sciences, University Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology and Social Assistance.

The evolution of professional career of Mr. Vladimir Guțu, Habilitated PhD in Pedagogical Sciences, University Professor, is marked by several

stages and valuable achievements on different dimensions of science and educational practice: teacher in a secondary school in the village of Bălăşeşti, Sângerei District, then in the village of Căinari Vechi, Soroca District; PhD student at the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences in Moscow (1980-1983); senior scientific researcher, scientific secretary, head of laboratory, deputy director at the Institute of Education Sciences; deputy director at the Republican Inspectorate, head of Department at the Ministry of Education; head of the Department of Education Sciences, dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology and Social Assistance, director of the Scientific Center for Educational Policies, Moldova State University.

At the beginning of 1990s, Professor Vladimir Guțu, within a team of enthusiasts eager for change, laid the conceptual foundations of the national school. He participated in the development of an educational doctrine oriented towards the depoliticization, democratization and opening of the education system in the Republic of Moldova towards European values. The concept of education development in the Republic of Moldova, the Education Law (1995), the National Program for the Development of Education for the years 1995-2000, the Concept of teaching-learning school subjects, constitute the foundation of the education system in the Republic of Moldova.

The activity of Mr. Vladimir Guțu remains prodigious even at the current stage. He is still an active member of the educational policy drafting teams, being the leader of scientific group of authors in the elaboration of the 2030 Education Strategy.

The curricular concept promoted with conviction and insistence by Mr. Vladimir Guțu focuses, for the most part, on the idea of partnership between the educational institution and the beneficiaries: student and employer. Education is a complex and continuous process. This characteristic has recently been accentuated in all aspects of the phenomenon and must be maintained even now, when the socio-cultural and economic conditions have caused a continuous reform of education. In this context, higher education needs specialists convinced of this truth and competent to promote strategies aimed at the continuous modernization of the professional training process. Mr. Vladimir Guțu is the person who knows how to project the future by effectively achieving the objectives of present based on the valorization of past.

Mr. Vladimir Guțu's activity in the field of scientific research has been focused on several aspects: general theory of education, university pedagogy, educational management, particular didactics.

The contribution of the university professor Vladimir Guțu relates to the development of the following: the Concept of teaching-learning the Romanian language in non-native schools; the Didactics of the Romanian language in non-native schools; the manuals and methodological guidelines; the bilingual dictionaries for students (together with other authors). In this context, it should be mentioned that Mr. Vladimir Guțu substantiated the concept of „complex approach” to the teaching of non-native languages, on the basis of which Romanian language school manuals for non-native speakers were developed.

The scientific activity of university professor Vladimir Guțu can be appreciated as the most productive and valuable by substantiating a new direction of research - the theory and methodology of the school and university curriculum, which were the basis of the national curriculum reform. The works of university professor Vladimir Guțu „*Basic Curriculum*” (1987), „*Basic Curriculum Design*” (1987), „*National Curriculum Reference Framework*” (2000), „*University Curriculum Theory and Methodology*” (2005), „*Educational Curriculum*” (2014) etc. are cited in Romania, the USA, Belarus, Ukraine.

Vladimir Guțu participated in the conceptualization and development of educational standards by subjects, child-friendly school standards, initial professional training standards, the qualifications framework, etc.

His research in the field of educational management is reflected in several publications, including „*Change Management*”, „*Quality Management*”, „*Strategic Management*” and in the collective work „*Educational Management*” (2013).

Over the course of several years, Mr. Vladimir Guțu carried out an extensive scientific-organizational activity, being concerned with the efficiency of the management of scientific research, the implementation of obtained scientific results, and the intensification of training of highly qualified staff through the doctorate. Under his guidance, 24 PhDs defended their thesis (representatives of different states: the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Israel, Jordan); 9 Habilitated PhDs in education sciences (including heads of chairs, deans, heads of departments).

Professor Vladimir Guțu also distinguished himself by coordinating multiple projects on educational themes: the General Education Reform Project, financed by the World Bank and the Government of the Republic of Moldova; the Quality Assurance in Higher Education Project (TEMPUS TACIS); the Integration of Science and Higher Education (2006-2009); the Holistic Approach to Development of Science and Higher Education from Perspective of Intra- and Inter-Institutional Integration (2006-2007); the



Monitoring of Quality and Development of Education in the Republic of Moldova (2005-2010); the Reconceptualization of Initial and Continuous Professional Training of Specialists from Perspective of Interconnection of Higher Education and Economic Environment (2011-2014); the Management in Context of Education Quality Assurance Policies (2011-2013, UNICEF); the „Review of the Conceptual Framework for a New Curriculum for Primary and Lower Secondary Education in the Republic of Moldova” financed by UNICEF Moldova (2018), the „Conceptual, Methodological and Managerial Framework of Non-Formal Education in the Republic of Moldova” (2020 - present) etc.

The multifaceted knowledge of education as a system and process, the openness to change, the ability to maintain good traditions, the optimal utilization of human potential characterize Mr. Vladimir Guțu as: Chairman of the National Council for Curriculum, Chairman of the Specialized Scientific Council for the support of doctoral theses and qualified doctor in education sciences, Chairman of the Specialized Scientific Seminar Within the Framework of the Moldova State University, Member of the Ministry of Education Board (2012), Educational Expert of the World Bank (with the mission in Tajikistan), Expert of the Commission for Educational Policies and Practices from within the Council of Europe, Chief Editor of the magazine „Studia Universitatis Moldaviae. Education Sciences Series”, Member of the editorial boards of the magazines Didactica Pro, Univers Pedagogic, Education of Today’s Man for the World of Tomorrow (University of Oradea), Acta Et Commentationes Magazine (Tiraspol State University, based in Chisinau).

The professional achievements of Mr. Vladimir Guțu are highly appreciated at the national and international level. Professor Vladimir Guțu was decorated with the „Glory of Labor” Order (2012), the Order of Honor of the Republic of Moldova (2021), the Academy of Sciences of Moldova awarded him the „Dimitrie Cantemir” Medal (2019), the Institute of Educational Sciences, Chisinau, Republic Moldova awarded him the title of DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA. His Eminence, Professor Vladimir Guțu holds the „Through Education We Can Change World” Medal and the Plaque (exhibited in the University of Oklahoma, included in the Induction Hall of International Adult Education and Continuing Education, from the event in Orlando, Florida, USA).

The prominent personality of the education in the Republic of Moldova, also recognized in academic circles abroad, the author of numerous monographs, studies and articles, in which the subject is part of the multidisciplinary approach of the education sciences, he established

himself through originality and scientific honesty, considerably influencing the evolution of theory and educational practices.

We are very grateful that we had the opportunity to meet and get to know a good teacher and excellent researcher, a capable personality who promotes quality.

For your wisdom and support, your effort and dedication, we bring you sincere good wishes and beautiful achievements supported by the esteem and love of the disciples.

## DESTINY FULFILLED

*Vasile COJOCARU*

Habilitated PhD in Pedagogic Sciences, University Professor,  
„Ion Creangă” State Pedagogical University of Chişinău  
e-mail: cojocaruvvasile55@gmail.com

There are people who, through their way of being, thinking and acting, produce a beneficial influence on the mentality and orientation in life of those around them, produce our change at the individual and organizational, social level. Among them, a worthy place is occupied by the distinguished University Professor, Habilitated PhD in Pedagogic Sciences, Mr. Vladimir Guţu, currently Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology and Social Assistance of the Moldova State University. His remarkable successes in the field of Education Sciences, highly appreciated by the pedagogical and scientific community in the entire Romanian socio-educational space and beyond, are due to his special attitude towards personal and professional development, his development as a Personality and Professional in Education Sciences. Family education contributed to this process first, then the school, „Ion Creangă” State Pedagogical University, doctoral studies at the Pedagogical Academy in Moscow, courses, internships in various prestigious training centers in Europe and the USA, but also the professional experience acquired over the years (Associate Professor, Deputy Head of the Republican Inspectorate, Deputy Director of the Institute of Scientific Research in Pedagogy and Psychology Field, Head of the Main Direction on Pre-University Education of the Ministry of Education).

The evolution of his professional career is marked by many valuable achievements (co-author of the Education Development Concept and Education Law (1995), the Education Code (2014), the Education Development Strategy „Education 2030”, etc.) that produced a positive impact on the development of the education system in the Republic of Moldova, but indisputably the greatest achievement is *the creation and implementation of the pre-university and university curriculum, that is the*

*essence of education reform in the Republic of Moldova*, undertaken in a new social-pedagogical context from the perspective of building a democratic society based on knowledge. Known as an expert in the domain, the „godfather” of curriculum, University Professor Mr. Vl. Guțu has changed our perception of the pedagogical reality, helped us to understand, to be aware and to form our conviction in the opportunity of fundamental transformation of the educational system in order to ensure the quality of education, training/development of human personality appropriate to the challenges of the contemporary world.

*The formidable University Professor, Mr. Vladimir Guțu*, represents a **Model Teacher**, his professional profile, human qualities identify an integral Personality with a strong intellectual force, the binder of his activity happily combines the activity of training teachers with that of scientific research, exercised with great grace and productivity (over 40 edited books-monographs and about 400 articles published in specialized magazines). The initiator and manager of many national and international scientific research projects, University Professor Mr. Vladimir Guțu addresses a wide range of topics of scientific interest, educational and training policies, constructivist pedagogy and competences pedagogy, curriculum, educational management, formal education, non-formal education, informal education, school/university didactics, initial and continuous training, assessment, behavioral theories and violence prevention practices, as well as pressing issues regarding education quality assurance and teacher training. Everyone is impressed by his scientific and pedagogical clairvoyance, the way of approaching the respective issues, seeing and acting differently, appropriately to the situation and context.

His pedagogic and scientific vocation is reflected in the training of highly qualified staff, including and especially, 25 PhDs and 9 habilitated doctors in education sciences, a fact that testifies that he is an excellent Mentor, who inspires confidence, possesses the art of mobilizing people to achieve the expected goals.

**Mr. Vladimir Guțu** has seen and supported the potential in others, selflessly and with great generosity raised a multitude of scholars in the field, showing his respect for the individual by trusting human dignity, always emphasizing freedom of thought, valuing people’s worth. Everyone is impressed by his deeply human attitude, the discipline, the passion, the talent to communicate, which being driven by a high consciousness bear rich fruits in the realm of education and his fulfillment.

**University professor Vladimir Guțu** *has an indisputable moral and professional authority*. His consistency, devotion to the cause he serves,

tenacity, competency, pronounced intelligence, synergy, enthusiasm, institution are characteristics that belong to him and **give him value of a Man, a Scholar, a Professor, a Leader-Manager, an Expert**. I believe that there is no educator, teaching staff, educational institution, public official in education who does not know him, who does not know his scientific, didactic, pedagogical work, his considerable contribution to the reform of education in the Republic of Moldova. However, his conceptual, visionary, systemic, positive thinking has fully materialized in actions and legislative-normative acts that guide the entire educational system in the context of new orientations and realities. The high state awards - the Medal of Honor and the Order of Labor Glory - are testimonies of his attitude and responsibility towards society and the future of our country.

On the occasion of the beautiful 70<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary, we express our deep gratitude to *university professor Vladimir Guțu* for the support given in achieving professional excellence, wishing him health and the continuation of his successful Life Project.

**LAUDATIO**  
**TO THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DOCTORT**  
**HABILITATE VLADIMIR GUȚU**

*Marta VICOL*

Lecturer PhD „Petre Andrei’ University of Iasi, Romania  
e-mail: marta.vicol@yahoo.com

From afar and yet closely, I stand by all university colleagues, collaborators and friends who today pay tribute to the distinguished university professor dr. habilitated Vladimir Gutu, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. We are talking about 70 years accompanied by priceless academic experiences, remarkable achievements and memories that have defined a career and especially a life.

It is a great honor to write this Laudatio for Dr. Vladimir Gutu, a prominent personality in the field of educational sciences and university pedagogy. Additionally, with great pleasure, I would like to recall part of the scientific work in the field of education and the professional activity of the great researcher.

If we were to compare the life of Professor Vladimir Gutu with a book, I could think of an impressive volume with noteworthy biographical milestones, with significant imprints in the professional evolution of many people, with great contributions to the development of knowledge and the academic community.

He was born on the lands of Cainarii-Vechi, Soroca county, Republic of Moldova, where he also completed his primary education. The next milestone of his education is in Chisinau, where he attended the „Ion Creanga” Pedagogical University, followed by the Doctoral School of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Moldova.

His university career is an incredible one, with the completion of all university degrees. Throughout his professional activity, he held many positions, to name the most notable ones: senior scientific researcher, deputy director at the Institute of Educational Sciences, head of department at the Ministry of Education, head of department and Dean of the Faculty of

Psychology and Educational Sciences, State University of Moldova, respectively director of the Center for Educational Policies.

Author and co-author of several educational policy documents, among which I would like to highlight: the Conception of Education Development in the Republic of Moldova (1995), The National Education Development Program for the years 2005-2010, the Consolidated Education Development Strategy for the years 2009-2011; The Education Code Project; Educational standards -2011-2012, etc. The contribution of the professor is also significant at the level of the elaboration of conceptual documents as an author or co-author: The concept of teaching-learning the Romanian language in foreign language schools (1995), The concept of the national curriculum (1997), The concept of education in the Republic of Moldova (2000), The concept of the development of higher education from the perspective of joining the Bologna Process (2005), The concept of continuous training of staff teaching in the Republic of Moldova, Conception of the integration of science and higher education (2002).

The scientific developments of Professor Vladimir Gutu determined and founded a new direction in the sciences of education, which refers to the theory and methodology of the national curriculum, along with the evolution of the concepts of educational standards, didactic technologies and strategies, competences and objectives for the evaluation of learning outcomes.

Seen from an initiatory perspective, the career of university professor Dr. Vladimir Gutu „defies” geo-political and strategic barriers and (indisputably) represents a reference system to which any analysis of the concrete way in which education can reposition should be referred to and even „defies” the barriers imposed by prejudices, historical realities, political factors and (not least) contemporary paradoxes. His lordship’s approach to the concept of „change through education” represented not only an obvious element of apostolate, but succeeded in revolutionizing the West’s perception of the East, especially in terms of adapting the educational process (specific to an area of Russian influence) to the rigors and challenges of an „open space” that the western educational tradition assumes. The public dignities he held in the state apparatus of the Republic of Moldova allowed university professor Dr. Vladimir Gutu to concretely transpose his vision (initiative and innovative, in essence) about the essential role that educational sciences have in the process state reform complex. A careful analysis of the conceptual dominants present in his scientific work, demonstrates the fact that the educational stimuli he defined and applied generated an immediate social receptivity, which significantly

contributed to the transition of the Republic of Moldova from the constraints imposed by the „iron curtain” of a former communist state, to the challenges, „openings” and opportunities of a fragile democracy, but with a real perspective. The radical reformation of education in his country represented a goal of the entire academic career of university professor Dr. Vladimir Gutu. The approach to education through the prism of multiculturalism and the „connection” to Western values is remarkable, given that the social dynamics of the Republic of Moldova highlighted a „traditionalism” imposed by the political reality of half a century of communist segregation. Vladimir Gutu managed to impose his vision and radically transform the perception of „learning” and „culturalization” within an extremely complex and „volatile” social context, adapting educational strategies specific to advanced „democratic cultures” to traditionalist realities and customs.

I also honorably evoke the rich baggage of scientific publications, didactic works, monographs, school textbooks for all levels of education, with a predilection for the university level, methodological guides, articles in national and international specialized magazines. I will mention only a few significant contributions: Conception of education development in the Republic of Moldova, Official Gazette (1995), Education Law, Official Gazette (1995), Conception of education in the Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Education (1999), Theory and methodology of the university curriculum, USM (2000) , Management of change in the educational framework, Chisinau (2005), National Strategy for the development of higher education in the context of the Bologna Process, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (2005). He is also the only author of reference research in the field of pedagogy. I remember the significant contribution through the work Didactic design in higher education, Chisinau, CEP-USM (2007), National Curriculum Reference Framework, Chisinau (2007), Paradigm changes in educational theory and practice (3 volumes), Chisinau, CEP-USM (2009).

Remarkable is as well the contribution of the professor to the development of many national and international projects, as a coordinator and member, among which I should mention: the General Education Reform Project (2007-2011, World Bank), the Quality Assurance in Higher Education Project (Tempus-Tacis), The holistic approach to the development of science and higher education from the perspective of intra- and inter-institutional integration (2006-2007), Monitoring the quality and development of education in the Republic of Moldova (2005-2010), Reconceptualizing the initial and continuing professional training of



specialists from the perspective of the interconnection of higher education and the economic environment (Academy of Sciences of Moldova).

He did it in a masterful way, without altering the national identity of his country, education thus becoming a vector of progress, (regardless of the linguistic and multicultural component in the Slavic area) which radically transformed both social perceptions and mentalities, contributing to the reduction of the „backlash” and inherent reluctance to the challenges that the establishment and consolidation of a democracy entails. In such a context, the true value of Albert Einstein’s words was proven: „The goal of education should be to prepare people who act and think independently and who, at the same time, see serving the community as the supreme achievement of their lives „. Through his entire scientific activity, university professor Dr. Vladimir Gutu, managed to achieve what Sydney J. Harris states (ideally): „The ultimate goal of education is to change mirrors into windows”.

With a perpetual interest in the development of the academic environment and with the aim of deciphering the secrets of pedagogical thinking, Professor Vladimir Gutu carried out professional internships in England, Holland, Spain, Belgium, Portugal, France, Sweden, Finland and Romania. In 2016, for his prodigious professional and research activity, he was included in the Gala of world celebrities by the University of Oklahoma, USA and in the „International Lifelong Education Association”.

The psychological map of becoming a scholar had a different route for me when, in 2007, I met university professor Vladimir Gutu, dean of the Faculty of Educational Sciences, State University of Moldova. The professor’s extensive university career and his academic expertise encouraged me to follow the doctoral school under his and distinguished university lecturer Dr. Zoe Gutu’s guidance. Thus, today with honor and gratitude I can say that I am part of the academic community of the 25 doctors of pedagogical sciences coordinated by professor Vladimir Gutu.

The year 2007 saw the professional and personal partnership with the Gutu family of teachers, a partnership that materialized in joint projects, some of which are still ongoing today.

Scientific works developed together with Professor Vladimir Gutu, such as, „Didactic strategies in the structure of the educational paradigm” (2012, Chisinau), Treatise on Pedagogy, between modernism and postmodernism, (Iasi, 2014), „Education for values. Continuity and context” (CIEA 2018, Iasi), „National Curriculum, concept, structure and strategic development orientations” (2020, Chisinau), along with co-optation in the organization of joint scientific events, conferences, round tables, member of

public commissions the granting of the doctorate title for doctoral students from Romania, only confirmed the crediting with confidence from the outstanding scientist.

Today, with admiration and appreciation, I congratulate him on his 70th birthday. Each year marked by his scientific competences, professional excellence, recognized nationally and internationally, represented a step in the journey of life, and you, Professor Vladimir Gutu, climbed these steps with dignity and courage, with memorable achievements in the field of educational sciences. I join the generous team of PhD students that you coordinated with passion for knowledge, and I assure you that your vast experience will remain a source of inspiration for us and for future generations. Happy birthday and enjoy the coming years with the same meaningfulness and inspiration!

*With utmost consideration!*

**TO PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU,  
DOCTOR OF PEDAGOGY, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR,  
DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY  
AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY  
AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE  
OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA**

*Mihaela-Gabriela NEACȘU*  
Assoc. Prof., PhD National University  
of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest  
Pitesti University Center,  
Faculty of Educational Sciences,  
Social Sciences and Psychology  
e-mail: mihaelag\_neacsu@yahoo.com

Professor Vladimir Guțu is a respected personality of the academic world from the Republic of Moldova, a pedagogue of high moral and professional standing, who asserted himself nationally and internationally through valuable scientific research contributions in the field of Educational Sciences.

Of indisputable moral and professional authority, Professor Vladimir Guțu holds the status of an expert in Educational Sciences with special merits in reforming the educational system in the Republic of Moldova.

Approaching the didactic and managerial fields synergistically, Professor Vladimir Guțu has a complex activity, focusing both on the theoretical side of educational issues and on applied research in the field of Educational Sciences.

Permanently concerned with education, culture, research and sport, Professor Vladimir Guțu is a visionary and a trailblazer, a thinker of great depth, always connected to the reality of this changing world. His pedagogical vocation, as well as his intelligence, define him as a teacher of excellence and a quality mentor with a considerable contribution to the training of teaching staff in Moldova and Romania.

A human and intellectual model for many generations of students and PhD students, Professor Vladimir Guțu tirelessly contributes to the enrichment of knowledge in the field of Educational Sciences by involving himself with enthusiasm and dedication in many innovative, far-reaching educational projects for the Republic of Moldova.

Preoccupied with the issues of quality and performance in academic education, Professor Vladimir Guțu enjoys the high appreciation of his colleagues, students, master's and doctoral students from the Republic of Moldova and from Romania, to whom he gave his knowledge and values, believing strongly in the potential creator of everyone, pushing them to overcome themselves in the process of becoming and professional affirmation.

**EULOGY TO AN OUTSTANDING PERSONALITY  
FOR THE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT  
TO MR. VLADIMIR GUȚU, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR  
DOCTOR HABILITATE  
FROM THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA**

*Vasilica BALERCA*  
e-mail: balerca\_vasy@yahoo.com

Writing about the personality of the Professor Vladimir Guțu is similar to writing a doctoral thesis or any large-scale work because you cannot cover the complexity of this aspect in the pages of an article. Enrollment in the Doctoral School within the State University of Moldova was the opportunity to interact with the academic elite within this institution. The whole atmosphere was conducive, favoring a quality training as a researcher, as a person, as a teacher who completed his last form of education and not anyway, to higher standards.

The chance for an exceptional coordination was offered to me by the appointment of Mr. Professor Vladimir Guțu and by his Lordship's acceptance - a chance that I received with a gratitude that I cannot express in words. This honor of accepting the coordination of the doctoral thesis met my personal and professional standards for the quality of the academic act carried out at a high level.

As an irony of fate, the topic of my doctoral thesis „Psychopedagogical peculiarities of developing critical thinking in primary school students” was to be coordinated by a flamboyant personality, gifted with critical thinking at a level that I have rarely been given to know , extraordinary intelligence and vast experience in this field. Looking back on our collaboration during my doctoral studies, I can firmly affirm that it was the hardest experience I overcame under the strict supervision of Professor Vladimir Guțu. I found out how hard it is - very hard to live up to the quality standards imposed by the coordinating professor. I learned that you have to be really good, that you have to have research skills, a strong

determination and extreme perseverance to be able to cope with the demands of the professor.

The collaboration with Professor Guțu throughout the period of the doctoral studies constituted the appropriate context for studying, for getting to know a remarkable personality for the academic environment. I discovered, step by step, extraordinary qualities that, in my view, complete a model for all of us: as a researcher, of intelligence, of author of books, of organizer, of respect for others. I benefited, to the full, from the professor's experience, from his Lordship's ability to coordinate a thesis with scientific impact through a rigorous structuring and an innovative vision. Endowed with an impressive analytical capacity, he vigilantly monitored that this collaboration was a fruitful one, and that the final result was a resounding one for the academic environment and not only.

As a PhD student from Romania, it was a unique experience in the sense that we were faced with a different academic system, much more rigorous and demanding, therefore the support of Professor Guțu was of real use in the research process during the doctoral school. The initiation into this new stage of personal development was carried out under the careful supervision of my mentor at a higher level that corresponds to the demands of a well-documented, scientifically substantiated doctoral thesis and by emphasizing the elements of novelty and originality. Throughout the Doctoral School, he revealed to me the personality of Professor Guțu and the passion for science that he instilled in me through a vast publishing experience based on a deep knowledge of scientific concepts, a multilateral culture and a sustained work capacity giving -we get the impression of a tireless character.

Looking back at the entire postgraduate educational path, I can firmly affirm that it was a difficult one, extremely difficult in the sense of reaching the performance standards imposed by the State University of Moldavia, on the one hand, and the demands of Professor Guțu, on the other. I believe that I have benefited to the full from a supported, rigorous program, from an exceptionally high-quality academic training and I am certain of a job well done, well done in accordance with the criteria imposed by the professor. This collaborative relationship marked me positively as a researcher, as a person, as a professional in the field of educational sciences and gave me the certainty that a real doctor in a field of this kind is formed over time, with immense efforts and with a serious involvement and rigorous.

Any learning experience marks you, more or less, and can influence your subsequent course. I wanted for myself to finalize my post-graduate studies, but not anyway through an involvement and through a desire to

evolve in this sense, that is why I consider that the whole activity of coordinating the doctoral thesis on the part of Professor Guțu determined me to understand that a successful research activity is based on an intense individual study, a good knowledge of the field of the work and on the journalistic skills necessary in its actual elaboration. All these aspects were closely directed by my mentor so that nothing was left to chance, but done correctly, coherently, with a high sense of responsibility.

Concluding on the basis of the entire research approach and the entire activity of coordinating doctoral theses, I can say that I discovered the values that Professor Vladimir Guțu instilled in me and that I assumed as part of my personal system of qualities that I managed to acquire: critical thinking, perseverance to continue and not give in to the temptation to give up, tenacity, self-confidence, passion for science, mobilizing all inner resources even in the conditions in which you felt them exhausted, total involvement in achieving the proposed objectives, unconditional support as a professional and as a person and, most importantly, he taught me what RESPECT means.

On the occasion of the anniversary, I wanted to express my most sincere thoughts and my full and deep gratitude for a remarkable personality of culture and science not only from the Republic of Moldova, but also at the international level. I appreciate all your activity and consider you a role model for the younger generations and I am extremely glad that I could benefit from the opportunity to know you, to communicate, to collaborate in order to create a valuable scientific product for the academic community and society.

Mr. Professor Vladimir Guțu, I wish you to inspire other PhD students, to coordinate them with the tenacity and vivacity that characterize you and to develop valuable works at higher quality standards. I feel grateful, I thank you with all the sincerity of a former PhD student who managed to live up to your demands, considering me a successful academic product for the Doctoral School of the State University of Moldova.

*With great respect and deep gratitude.*

**LAUDATIO**  
**FOR VLADIMIR GUȚU, DOCTOR HABILITATIS**  
**IN PEDAGOGICAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY**  
**PROFESSOR, DEAN OF FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**AND EDUCATION SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY**  
**AND SOCIAL WORK, MOLDOVA STATE UNIVERSITY,**  
**ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY EVENT**

*Nicolae BRAGARENCO*

Doctor of pedagogical sciences,  
associate professor, head of the Department  
of Physical Education, Faculty of Psychology  
and Educational Sciences, Sociology and Social Work,  
State University of Moldova  
e-mail: nicolae.bragarenco@usm.md

The anniversary event celebrating Mr. Vladimir Guțu's 70th birthday presents an opportune moment to acknowledge his exceptional academic personality, reputation, and scientific prestige, as well as his professionalism and moral conduct as a role model within the national and international academic community. He is a prominent figure who has distinguished himself through extensive teaching and research activities in the field of Educational Sciences, which have led him to scientific recognition from the entire academic community both within the country and abroad.

Writing a laudatio for Professor Guțu Vladimir is a challenging task given the complexity of his various activities and the multifaceted aspects of his personality by which he is defined. Alongside the significant sides in his academic career as an educator, researcher, and expert, represented by numerous publications both nationally and internationally in the field of Sciences and Education Policy, there is another aspect of Professor Guțu's life that is less known within the academic community—his dedication to physical education and sports, which has accompanied him throughout his various activities.



There is much to be said about the sporting achievements and activities of the honoree. However, for this special occasion, I will attempt to summarize the wealth of available information and highlight the most significant accomplishments achieved at different stages of his professional way:

- Born on November 11, 1953, in the village of Căinari-Vechi, Soroca District, Vladimir Guțu's passion for physical education and sports began during his school years in the same locality. He actively participated in extracurricular events organized by his teachers and also represented his school in regional sporting competitions. Football was his favorite sport, and in the ninth grade, he was appointed captain of the school's football team, which competed in the district championship.
- Although he initially aspired to pursue a career as a football player at the university level, as a student at the „Ion Creangă” State Pedagogical University from 1971 to 1975, circumstances led him to explore the world of combat sports, guided by the well-known coaches A. Doga and I. Curdov. Through hard work and perseverance, he became a member of the university's sambo and judo wrestling team, which maintained their championship titles in university competitions during those years.
- Serving in the military from 1975 to 1977, Vladimir Guțu achieved the title of Master of Sport in Sambo. Notably, he secured first and third place in the Union Championship in Sambo among Border Guards in 1975 and 1976, taking place in Breansk, USSR.
- Another noteworthy aspect of Professor Guțu's sporting career is his role as a coach. Returning to his hometown as a teacher from 1977 to 1980, he not only fulfilled his educational duties but also led judo sections for students at the General School in Căinari-Vechi, Soroca District, actively coaching them in local and regional competitions.
- Simultaneously pursuing his studies, military service, and teaching, Vladimir Guțu achieved multiple championship titles in the Soroca, Drochia, and Florești districts in the national wrestling competition known as „Trânta.”
- From 1980 to 1983, while pursuing his doctoral studies at the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences in Moscow, Guțu Vladimir served as a sports volunteer within the institution's dormitories, organizing competitive and recreational sports events. During this period, he developed a passion for table tennis, which he systematically practiced for recreation.

- Engaging in various roles such as collaborator, researcher, and deputy director at the Institute of Pedagogy and Psychology from 1983 to 1999, as well as section chief within the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports of the Republic of Moldova from 1999 to 2001, Professor Guțu continued to play table tennis as an amateur, honing his skills to a high level of expertise.
- Since 2001, as an employee of the State University of Moldova, where he held positions such as Head of the Pedagogy and Psychology Department and Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences (now the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology, and Social Work), Professor Guțu Vladimir has been an integral part of the university's table tennis team, achieving multiple championships among university faculty members in organized competitions.
- Starting in 2010 and continuing to the present, he has participated in all national table tennis competitions for veterans, consistently earning a place on the winners' podium. In 2023, he secured the second place in the Republic of Moldova's Veteran Championship.
- Professor Guțu Vladimir's rich and diverse contributions to education, research, management, and sports have played an essential role in the development of effective educational policies in the field of physical education and sports at the national level.

Some of these key contributions include the development of:

- The University Curriculum Framework;
- The National Curriculum Framework;
- The Early Childhood Education Framework in the Republic of Moldova;
- The Non-Formal Education and Extracurricular Framework in the Republic of Moldova;
- The Basic Curriculum: Competency System for General Education;
- The National Curriculum: Primary Education;
- The National Curriculum: General Education - Physical Education Area;
- The Basic Curriculum for Extracurricular Activities in the field of Sport, Tourism, and Recreation;
- others.

It is noteworthy that Professor Guțu Vladimir played a direct role in the restructuring of physical education and sports within the State University of Moldova. Through his advocacy and persuasion, he convinced

the university's leadership of the necessity of modernizing this field in higher education institutions. In September 2022, by Senate decision, the Department of Physical Education was established within the Faculty of Psychology, Education Sciences, Sociology, and Social Work, furthering his commitment to elevating the prestige of physical education and sports within the academic realm. His unwavering dedication to enhancing the standing of Physical Education and Sports in higher education is a testament to his vision and determination.

Over the years, Professor Guțu Vladimir has proven to be a remarkable partner and advocate for national physical education and sports. His professional and sporting achievements not only bring personal pride but also serve as a source of pride for the entire community engaged in the field of physical education and sports. Simultaneously, he stands as an exemplary role model for contemporary educators and scholars who are actively involved in shaping the education of the younger generation. „*Mens sana in corpore sano*”.

## **LAUDATIO – GUȚU VLADIMIR, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR**

*Maia BOROZAN*

Prof. univ., dr hab., UPSC, Chișinău, R. Moldova  
e-mail: mayacojocari@yahoo.com

Late autumn presents an opportunity to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the esteemed university professor and doctor habilitatus in pedagogy, Vladimir Guțu, and reflect upon his most significant contributions to educational advancement. His astute perception of the complexities of the contemporary world positioned him as a pivotal decision-maker for both general and tertiary education.

I am deeply privileged to count myself amongst the doctors habilitatus in pedagogical sciences who have been guided and mentored by Professor Guțu. As admirers of his time-tested pedagogical expertise, we attest that our diligent Mentor has established himself as a key figure in the field of pedagogy via his efforts to conceptualize and transform education. This status was achieved through scientific expertise and assiduous effort towards the reevaluation of educational policies, improvement of pedagogical language, and advancement of the educational sciences.

The altruistic nature, fervent drive for pioneering research and the exuberance of the scientific principles generated by Professor Guțu serve as testimony to his unflagging commitment, undiminished by the relentless passage of time. The various managerial positions that he held throughout his career demonstrated his effectiveness and productivity as a leader, particularly in his efforts to enhance the quality of higher education. Through his exuded enthusiasm, unyielding ambition and unwavering perseverance, he established premises for the emergence of new research directions. Furthermore, he actively fostered a team-oriented professional environment that was vital for the innovation of education. The role of a Professor is unquestionably challenging, involving the training of scientists through motivation, counselling, career guidance, and suggestions for career development and advancement opportunities.

We take great pride in acknowledging that age is the man's greatest wealth. For the esteemed academic, Professor Vladimir Guțu, reaching this honorable age provides a new and stimulating opportunity to review the course of his professional journey which includes:

- the professional development path as a school teacher, a senior scientific researcher, a university lecturer, and a university professor;
- the domains of scientific inquiry (educational policies, educational curriculum, axiology and teleology of education, professional standards, institutional management, and the framework of professional qualifications, etc.);
- the coordination of applied research projects, such as „The conceptual, methodological and managerial framework of non-formal education in the Republic of Moldova” and „The concept and methodology of the connection and continuity between higher education cycles from the perspective of the Standard Classification of Occupations Framework”, scientific coordinator of the Project „General Education Reform in the Republic of Moldova” and other similar initiatives that have contributed significantly to the education and training of numerous generations of researchers and specialists in the field of educational sciences;
- the affirmation of managerial professionalism in various positions including but not limited to: Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Sociology and Social Work (USM); Director of the Center for Educational and Social Policies (USM); Head of Pedagogy and Psychology Department (USM); Deputy Director of the Institute of Educational Sciences; Head of Department at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Republic of Moldova;
- international expert in the field of education at the Council of Europe (Commission for Educational Policies and Practices), President of the National Council for Curriculum (Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova), member of the Assembly at the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, President of the Committee of Experts at the National Council for Science and Technological Development, Editor-in-Chief of the Scientific Journal „Studia Universitatis Moldaviae”, Education Sciences Series, Category B, President of the Commission for doctoral thesis evaluation and defense, and national trainer, etc.

His professional activity has garnered significant recognition within the academic community, as evidenced by the prestigious awards he has

received over the course of his career such as the DOCTOR ONORIS CAUSA from the Institute of Educational Sciences in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, the Order of Work Glory, and the Medal „Through education we can change the world” from the University of Oklahoma in Orlando, Florida, US.

We believe that we can learn a lot from his outstanding career trajectory. His influence in the field of research management is remarkable, evincing his adeptness and refinement as an author. Through his works on pedagogy, we acknowledge his expertise in addressing varied issues encompassing the design and development of educational systems, education reform, and strategic planning in education.

Empirical data reveals that Professor Guțu’s pedagogical discourse, founded upon the principles of national and universal culture, is delivered with sagacity and at the appropriate time. His unwavering contributions to educational theory and practice are evident in the multitude of ideas that have been disseminated across a vast array of over 400 scientific publications. These publications include monographs, textbooks, guides, curricula, scientific articles, compendiums, and normative acts. Professor Vladimir Guțu formulates his perspective on personality development through productive inquiries of novel insights within the realm of educational sciences aiming at assisting students in designing their career paths and establishing themselves as professionals in a world that is characterized by axiological contradictions.

Professor Vladimir Guțu has established himself as a true Educator, through the Model of his own professional itinerary and through his scientific contributions. By training 24 doctors and 9 doctors habilitatus in educational sciences, he is actively engaged in the professional development of generations of researchers. His work fuels optimism and pedagogic dignity, generating investigative searches and deep reverberations for the establishment of new research directions within his Scientific School.

The profile of the esteemed scientist Vladimir Guțu, is defined by his high level of professionalism, pedagogical responsibility, elegant professional communication, diligence, intelligence, and decency of pedagogical implications. Happy birthday, dear Professor! We wish you good health, intellectual prosperity, and the joy of new professional achievements.

## **MAN HAS NO NOBLER WORD TO SHOW WHO IS HE THAN HIS NAME**

*Argentina CHIRIAC*

PhD, associate professor, The State University  
of Medicine and Pharmacy „Nicolae Testemițanu”  
from Republic of Moldova  
e-mail: [argentina.chiriac@usmf.md](mailto:argentina.chiriac@usmf.md)

*Admiration is a luminous feeling  
which, when it appears in all its  
purity, undoubtedly represents a  
high starting of the human soul.*

Philippides

Writing LAUDATIO about Professor Vladimir Gutu was a „pleasant and honorable” mission, „the mission is pleasant because it allows me to express my appreciation and admiration for an exceptional scholarly performance, an outstanding personality in the development of education in the Republic of Moldova.

Today we offer the highest expression of our Recognition to the Professor at the polychrome crown of 70 autumns full of success, because there are people who mark our lives forever. There are teachers who, through their selflessness, not only transmit to us vast and valuable knowledges, but also turn into pillars of our future career... Such a rare example is for us illustrious Professor Vladimir Gutu. The successes and achievements of Professor Vladimir Gutu are a conclusive proof of his perseverance, tenacity, and assiduity, which contributed to the formation of a perfect image. Being an advocate of quality training, pedagogue, researcher, and scientific leader Vladimir Gutu insistently promotes pragmatic, functional, and applicable pedagogical and methodical principles, who has made great efforts in his ascension to perfection, being eager to fully give his intellectual potential to people.

If I were to describe the qualities of a professional in the field, I would say out loud, Mr. Professor is a driving force and catalyst of activity in the field of education, he is the Patriarch of Education, both in the country and

abroad. It is a model of openness to modernity, always willing for collaboration, initiator, and promoter of everything progressive, innovative, current, pleading for deepening knowledge in the field, urging young specialists to continuous professional growth through master and doctoral studies.

The disciples of the talented teacher Gutu have great admiration and deep respect for Mr. Gutu's impeccable personality. The scholarly approach to education crowned with unique professorial grace, he raises the lectures of Mr. Professor to the highest level methodological and methodical rigors. Human dignity, genuine intelligence, goodwill towards his students, combined with great consistency in achieving educational goals, are the qualities that characterize this erudite teacher, who nourishes the love and respect of countless generations of students.

Dear Professor, Vladimir Gutu, at this tender jubilee, we wish you intelligence, assiduity, indulgence, perseverance – the privilege of the elect! Continue to work with the same creative energy, love for your profession, new carrier achievements. May the light of wisdom, intelligence of the reputed Vladimir Gutu to be infiltrated into the souls of young shoots and become, in turn, a source of Abnegation, Consecration, Victory in the name of man.

*VIVAT ACADEMIA! VIVANT PROFESSORES! SEMPER SINT IN FLORIS!*



## THE NOBILITY OF THE TEACHER

*Monica DECEAN*  
CJRAE Sibiu, Romania  
e-mail: monicadecean@yahoo.com

Pablo Picasso said „The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.”

Professor universitar dr.habilitat Vladimir Guțu offered his innovative and noble spirit, generosity and calling in the honorable position of university teacher, forming values as professionals and as people. Through His Majesty’s doctoral students, through the books and studies he wrote, he perfectly combined scientific excellence with didactic and pedagogical mastery proven in the training process of young teachers and researchers.

An exceptional teacher, anchored in a supreme and superior belief in the idea of duty, he received the appreciation he enjoys in the academic community in the Republic of Moldova and abroad.

I feel very honored and fulfilled for the fact that I had the happy occasion and the great chance to meet and know you as a noble and generous Man and teacher.

On the occasion of your birthday, I wish you, Mr. Professor, a sincere, „Happy Birthday!” and may we, your students, be worthy of the treasures you planted in our personality.

## *LAUDATIO*

*Mihaela HUNCA*  
Professor dr., „Ion Agârbiceanu” High School, Cluj-Napoca  
e-mail: mihaela.hunca@yahoo.com

To mister university professor Dr. Vladimir Guțu, dean at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Sociology and Social Assistance, State University of Moldova.

I am living an exceptional, completely memorable moment, as I have the honor to pay tribute to the personality of Professor Vladimir Guțu, a personality who stood out through a rich teaching activity, an occupation that brought him a recognized prestige. Added to this are the moral traits that attest that in his activity he felt responsible not only professionally, but also in his relationships with people, which gives him the measure of commitment to himself and the world he lived in, giving him a moral authority that completes his identity.

There are people „blessed by God”, willing to help, and who live not only for themselves, positively influencing the lives of those who had the chance to be around them for a period of time. Such a man is the university professor Dr. Vladimir Guțu. It is difficult to include a personality in a narrow frame, that’s why I will select only a few significant points from my personal experience and the didactic relationships we had together.

It is also a privilege to write about the great didactic and scientific personality, a brand representative of the university world.

For me, when I say PEDAGOGY, it means VLADIMIR GUȚU, and that, not only because through the results obtained he managed to be, in the USA, in the same gallery of international celebrities alongside Spiru Haret, but also because he represents a right model for us to follow in Education.

From the desire to solve a problem of the Romanian education system, namely the inefficiency of the professional training of teachers, I had the chance to have him as the scientific coordinator of the doctoral thesis and to benefit from exceptional guidance and collaboration, which resulted in a new paradigm of didactic professionalization.

Even if the trips to Chisinau were often exhausting, the constructive discussions and innovative ideas on education issues banished my fatigue and, often, as a result of them, I found effective solutions to some problems I faced in the positions I held in Education system.

A model of professional integrity, with didactic human values and an exceptional scientific scope, the distinguished university professor Dr. Vladimir Gutu strengthened my hope that Education will save the world!

Dimitrie Gusti stated that „one’s highest ethical duty is to become a personality”! University professor Dr. Vladimir Guțu is a personality, he conquered it through effort, insistence and passion. The professor’s own life is - for those whom he has trained - an example, and the balance of time shows us that it tilts not according to the number of years, but according to the accomplishments achieved!

Thank you Professor Vladimir Gutu!

*Vivat, crescat, floreat!*

**LAUDATIO**  
**IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU**  
**A HABILITATED DOCTOR IN PEDAGOGY AND DEAN**  
**OF THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**AND EDUCATION SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY,**  
**AND SCOLAR WORK**  
**AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA**

*Alin Ioan CREȚU*  
Ph.D. Student in Psychology  
State University of Moldavia

Dear audience,

Today, we have gathered to celebrate and pay tribute to an exceptional personality in the field of education and research. It is an honor for me to speak about Professor Vladimir Guțu, whose contributions throughout his career have illuminated the way for generations of young researchers and students.

Professor Vladimir Guțu is an emblematic figure in the academic environment, a recognized and respected name in the entire Moldavian academic community and beyond. With a career dedicated to higher education and research, he has laid the foundation for a lasting legacy in education.

With an exceptional spirit of devotion to his area of expertise, Professor Guțu has inspired and guided many students in their academic and professional journeys. With passion and rigor, he has imparted not only knowledge but also values such as academic integrity, perseverance, and a passion for continuous learning. His students have not only successfully completed university lectures, but have become remarkable leaders and professionals in various fields, thus contributing to the development of society.

As a researcher, Professor Guțu has made significant contributions in his field of expertise, bringing prestige and recognition to the State University of Moldavia. He has approached complex issues and generated new knowledge through his research, demonstrating excellence in scientific approach and innovative thinking.

Moreover, Professor Guțu is not only an outstanding scientist and educator, but also a person of character, a mentor, and a dedicated friend. He has created an environment where dialogue and collaboration are encouraged, where young people are guided to explore their potential and pursue their dreams.

Today, we celebrate not only an exceptional career, but also an extraordinary person. Professor Vladimir Guțu is a living example of the positive impact that a dedicated educator and a passionate researcher can have on the lives of students and on the progress of society.

On behalf of the entire academic community, we extend recognition, admiration, and gratitude for his significant contributions and for the inspiration he has provided to generations of students. Professor Guțu, we are honored to have you with us and to pay tribute to you today for all your impressive accomplishments.

Thank you, Professor Vladimir Guțu, for your insightful knowledge and guidance. We hope that you continue to guide others on their academic and professional journeys.

*Congratulations on a remarkable career!*

**LAUDATIO**  
**IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR VLADIMIR GUȚU**  
**A HABILITATED DOCTOR IN PEDAGOGY AND DEAN**  
**OF THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**AND EDUCATION SCIENCES, SOCIOLOGY,**  
**AND SCOLAR WORK**  
**AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA**

*Crina Florica CREȚU*  
Ph.D. Student in Psychology  
State University of Moldavia

Eminent audience,

In honor of Professor Vladimir Guțu, a distinguished educator and researcher in the academic world, I would like to express my appreciation and admiration for his exceptional contributions to the Pedagogy field. As a psychologist, I find it a special privilege to pay tribute to his significant achievements.

Mr. Professor Vladimir Guțu is not only a distinguished educator and researcher, but also an individual, who has made a noteworthy contribution to the pedagogical understanding of humanity. Through his applied studies, he has showed that both learning and continuing development are fundamental to personal and professional success.

One notable aspect of his career has been his holistic approach to education, which incorporates not only intellectual growth, but also emotional and social development of students. He promoted education as a deeper process, aimed at enhancing interpersonal skills, empathy and self-reflection.

Professor Guțu's contributions to the field of Psycho-pedagogy and Cognitive learning have radically altered our understanding of teaching and learning. His research into learning strategies has provided useful tools for both students and teachers to enhance the efficiency of learning and personal growth.

Beyond his academic accomplishments, Professor Guțu is known for his exceptional humanity. He has been a dedicated mentor and counsellor to his students, offering support and guidance during key moments in their academic and personal lives. He has inspired trust and created a learning environment in which his students have been encouraged to explore their potential and exceed their limits.

Professor Vladimir Guțu's profound influence on those who have had the privilege to know and learn from him has left a deep imprint on their hearts and minds. His holistic approach to education and his deep understanding of human development has significantly contributed to the intellectual growth of multiple generations of students, and we are grateful for his positive influence and dedication to education and human development.

On behalf of the community of psychologists and those interested in personal and professional development, I would like to offer sincere appreciation and congratulations to Professor Guțu for his exceptional career and significant contributions.

We hope that you will continue to guide and inspire us in our journey towards a deeper understanding of humanity and continuous growth.

*Congratulations and honors with all our admiration!*

## PROMOTER OF MODERN PEDAGOGY

*Simion MUSTEAȚĂ*,  
Associate Professor, PhD in Pedagogy

The wisemen consider that the only measure unit to appreciate the values of a destiny is the deed, only our own deeds make us who we are. In light of this, I would like to present *Vladimir Guțu - the University Professor, Habilitated PhD in Pedagogy, International Expert in Education*.

He turns the beautiful age of 70 on November 11 this year. At first sight it is a simple number, though it is imposing and consistent, enumerating day by day *the building of destiny's pinnacle of the Pedagogue, Scholar, Manager, Guide and Man - Vladimir Guțu*.

Fruitifying a thorough training in the secondary school of general culture from Cainarii Vechi in the Soroca plains - a modern school at that time and well known to the entire republic - and inheriting a valuable moral condensate in the family and from the local community, *he managed to demonstrate to the educational community the virtues worthy of praise, becoming a famous pedagogue and passionate researcher in the field of education*.

After higher education studies in philology, he returned to teaching in his native school and, accumulating practical experience, followed his PhD studies in Moscow, finishing it in 1983 with the duly defense of his dissertation on the topic: „*Methodology of Developing Coherent Speech of Students*”.

He immediately joined the research work and university pedagogy, and later, after a valuable practice, in 1996 he successfully defended his habilitated PhD thesis in pedagogy at the Institute of Education Sciences from Moldova, thesis was entitled: „*Theory and Methodology of Basic Curriculum in Context of Education Reform*”.

During his professional career, he carried out fundamental and even pioneering scientific research in school and university curriculum theory, in didactic technologies, in the evaluation and monitoring of education outcomes.

From the very beginning, he became *the author and co-author of a big number of educational policies and major conceptual documents: Conception of Education Development in the Republic of Moldova*,



*Education Law Project (1995), National Education Development Program for Years 2005-2010, Consolidated Education Development Strategy for Years 2009-2011, Educational Code Project (2014), State Educational Standards Projects (2013) etc.*

He made a considerable contribution to the *development of university pedagogy, Concept of Higher Education Development from Perspective of Joining Bologna Process (2003), Conception of Continuous Training of Teaching Staff in the Republic of Moldova (2005), Conception of Science and Higher Education Integration (2006) etc.*

He is the one who *founded a new direction in the education sciences - the theory and methodology of the national curriculum, developed the theories regarding educational standards, technologies, didactic strategies, competences and objectives, evaluation of learning outcomes.* The results of his research, managerial and didactic activity can be found in over 400 scientific and didactic works, among which are the following:

- *„Scientific Bases of Education Development in the Republic of Moldova” (1997);*
- *„Theory and Methodology of University Curriculum” (2000);*
- *„Basic Curriculum: Competences System for General Education” (2000);*
- *„Educational Curriculum. Research. Development. Optimization” (2014);*
- o *„Management of Change in Education Framework” (2005);*  
*“Pedagogy” (2013);*
- *„University Didactics. Studies and Experiences” (2013);*
- *„Educational Management” (2013);*
- *„Treatise on Pedagogy - Between Modernism and Postmodernism” (2014) etc.*

He was *the coordinator and member of several national and international educational projects, among which are the following: General Education Reform Project (1997-2003), financed by the World Bank and the Government of the Republic of Moldova; Quality Assurance in Higher Education Project (Tempus-Tacis); Quality and Development Monitoring of the Republic of Moldova (2005-2010); Reconceptualization of Initial and Continuous Training of Specialists from Perspective of Higher Education and Economic Environment Interconnection (2011-2014) etc.*

Mr. V. Guțu made an outstanding contribution to the realization of project of general culture school reform as a national trainer and scientific coordinator of the National Council for Development and Evaluation of Curriculum, becoming also the President of this high forum. Also in those

times, *the scientific algorithm for developing the curriculum for each school subject was determined (Conception, Strategy, Plan of Actions Regarding Curriculum Elaboration, Methods of Its Development, Evaluation and Monitoring)*, which was later extrapolated to the higher education.

He is taking a special care of the growth of native scientific staff. So far, *he has trained 24 PhDs in Pedagogy and 9 Habilitated PhDs in this field.*

As a Manager - Head of Chair, Department, Dean, Head of Laboratory, Deputy Director of Research Institution - he manifested himself through responsibility, clarity and precision in determining the objectives and current and perspective problems of the respective structural unit.

Subordinates, colleagues highly appreciate his special moral and professional qualities: *humanity, honesty, work with selflessness and dedication, collaboration, perseverance and many other virtues. In everyday life he is simple, modest, calm and restrained, moderate and patient, always operates with convincing arguments.*

Reviewing his human values, since I have collaborated with him and have known him directly for a long time, I have the right to characterize him as a personality open towards the world and people, *Mr. Professor Vladimir Guțu has been, is and remains a professional of great scope, a true patriarch of modern pedagogy, a true patriot of the nation and the country, for which we pray to the Good God to give him much, much health and happiness with his family, colleagues, friends and loved ones!*

*At this anniversary time I transmit sincere congratulations, best wishes and prosperity!!!*

*Happy Birthday, distinguished and honored professor VLADIMIR GUȚU!*

## SCIENCE AND SOUL

*Mariana MARINESCU*

University professor Emeritus Phd. University of Oradea, Romania

e-mail: marinescum54@yahoo.com

There are moments in everyone's life when words are too poor to express the emotion of the present. Such an event is what we celebrate together, brothers from both sides of the Prut.

A decade ago I went to Chişinău to celebrate Professor Vladimir Guţu, a prominent figure in the field of Pedagogy in both countries. It was like *una festa*, where we all enjoyed ourselves, celebrated the professor, but also our success. Then I realized what Jean Jaurès wrote: „You don't teach others what you want, you don't teach them what you know, you teach them who you are.” Life has confirmed this truth. I believe that on the calling card of the distinguished professor are written these words: accomplished pedagogue (who holds the ace of science), trailblazer, doctoral coordinator, mentor, role model of life and moral conduct, scientist, outspoken collaborator in the realm of science, „distinguished and intellectual professor”, good man .....

I am glad that I met the distinguished professor and staff, through collaborations between the two universities, where I had to learn from.

Thank you for writing the foreword to my book *Didactica biologiei. Teorie și aplicații* (Paralela 45, 2018), thank you for the articles you wrote for us in our magazine over the years (*Revista Educația omului de azi pentru lumea de mâine / Human Education Today for Tomorrow's World Journal*; site: <https://humaneducationtoday.eu/> accessed on 27. 09.2023), thank you for the pedagogy books you gave us, books from which we have enriched our knowledge. We are glad to have met you personally, we enjoy our collaborations in the field of science.

Dear Mr. Professor Vladimir Guţu, I wish you a peaceful life, a long career, full health, many joys .... youth everlasting .....

*Happy Birthday! To Many Decades!*

