



University of Connecticut
Neag School of Education

*Neag Center for Gifted
Education and Talent
Development*

April 26, 2006

Professor Colceag
Fax# 40-21-778-3550

Dear Professor Colceag,

I write to support your efforts to pass a law on the education of gifted and capable of high performance children and youth in the Romanian government. So few countries have the insight to consider this type of action.

As a person of Romanian descent, I hope the government will support this legislation. An unfortunate reality, however, is that only a fraction of countries in our world support research that can provide empirical support for more effective ways of better serving our most able young people. What is clearly needed is an increase in the extent and variety of services for our most talented youth and a systematic national program of research that will provide programs that will develop future scientists and engineers, as well as artists and historians. To neglect this population is to shortchange the country. A grant funded in the United States under the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act and administered by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Research and Improvement made available for the first time a significant amount of funds in the United States to support such a program of national research and the effects have been monumental.

I believe that the same type of work can be carried out in Romania and that it will truly make a difference in your schools and for your talented students. I hope the Romanian government will strongly reconsider the passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Sally M. Reis, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor and Department Head
Department of Educational Psychology

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