

OBITUARY:
PAUL LORENZEN

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PAUL LORENZEN died in Göttingen on 1 October, 1994. Born in Kiel on 24 March, 1915, he studied mathematics, physics, chemistry and philosophy and got his doctorate in mathematics with Helmut Hasse in 1938. He specialized in algebra and obtained his *Habilitation* in 1946 in Bonn where he taught mathematics and history of mathematics until he accepted a philosophy chair in Kiel in 1956. Lorenzen was well known for his consistency proof of ramified type theory (*Journal of Symbolic Logic*, 1951), and for his *Einführung in die operative Logik und Mathematik* (a monograph in the yellow Springer series in 1955; 2nd edition, 1969), a protological approach aiming at a synthesis of Hilbert-Gentzen type proof theory with the intuitionistic foundational programme. Other books of Lorenzen are his *Formale Logik* (1958; 4th edition 1970; English 1965; Spanish 1970), his *Metamathematik* (1962; French 1967; Spanish 1971), *Differential und Integral* (a brilliant improvement on Hermann Weyl's early foundational approach to analysis), *Elementargeometrie* (1984) and *Lehrbuch der konstruktiven Wissenschaftstheorie* (1987). In logic, Lorenzen is best known for his dialogue semantics as a basis of (constructive as well as classical) Gentzen calculi, and for a new interpretation of modal logic and Kripke models.

Lorenzen was a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in 1957/58, an ordinary member of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences, of the Académie Internationale de Philosophie des Sciences (Bruxelles) and of the Institut International de Philosophie (Paris). After Bonn and Kiel, he held positions at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, at the University of Texas at Austin and at Boston University; he received honorary doctoral degrees from the State University of Rio de Janeiro-Niteroi in 1972 and from Boston University in 1985. Teaching in Erlangen since 1962, he and the philosopher Wilhelm Kamlah became the centre of a philosophical school known today as "Erlangen school". Lorenzen retired as Professor emeritus in 1980; among the 12 dissertations he supervised are those of Kuno Lorenz, Peter Janich, Oswald Schwemmer, Hans Julius Schneider and several others who have also continued his work in logic.