

In memory of Prof. Vladimir Bryushinkin

Vladimir Bryushinkin, Professor of Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Head of the Department of Philosophy, Director of Kant Institute, founder and vice-president of Russian Kant Society passed away of incurable disease on July 7th 2012 at the age of 58.

Professor Bryushinkin was a well-known Russian logician and researcher of Immanuel Kant's philosophical heritage. During the last three decades he had made a major contribution to the development of Kantian research in Kaliningrad (Konigsberg). His death became a major and irretrievable loss for philosophy in the city of Kant.

Vladimir Bryushinkin was born in Krasnoyarsk (Russia, Siberia). He completed graduate (1972–1977) and postgraduate study (1977–1980) at Lomonosov Moscow State University. In 1981 he defended his candidate dissertation titled "The Problem of Information Growth in Logical Procedures" written under scientific advisement of famous Soviet logician Evgeniy Voishvillo. Vladimir Bryushinkin began his academic work as an assistant lecturer at the department of logic of Lomonosov Moscow State University. In 1983 he became a docent at the Department of Philosophy of Kaliningrad State University (now Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University). Since then his life was inseparably linked with the city of Kant. At the same time Vladimir Bryushinkin kept the close relations with his *alma mater*, Moscow State University, where he defended his doctorate dissertation "Logical Modeling of Thought-Processes".

Vladimir Bryushinkin was not only a good scientist but also a talented administrator: since 1991 till his death he was a head of the Department of Philosophy, from 1999 to 2003 he was a vice-rector for research of the Kaliningrad State University. As an administrator, Vladimir Bryushinkin achieved a lot. The most important achievement was establishment of Philosophy among academic majors at the Kaliningrad University. For the first time since 1944 young people were being given an opportunity to seriously study philosophy in the city of Kant. He also put a big effort into renaming Kaliningrad University after Immanuel Kant. In the year 1990, alongside with Professor Leonard Kalinnikov, he founded Russian Kant Society and remained its vice-president. In the year 2008 he founded the Kant Institute which, according to Prof. Bryushinkin's plan, was to become one of the most important centers of Kantian research in the world. Since fall of 2008 he was a publisher and chief editor of *Kantovskiy Sbornik* – the only Russian journal devoted to research of Kant's philosophical legacy. During this time Bryushinkin succeeded in making the journal one of the most respected academic periodicals in Russia.

Prof. Bryushinkin did much for the development of Kantian research in Kaliningrad and Russia in general; he was an inspirer and organizer of many events devoted to Kant's legacy. From 1987 to 2009 he organized fifteen scientific conferences and seminars in Kaliningrad and Svetlogorsk/Rauschen, including five conferences on Kant's logic and philosophy (seminars on logical studies of Kantianism from 1987 to 1999), as well as a number of international conferences

on Kant's philosophy, including such major events as "IX Kant Conference: Kant between West and East" (April 22–24 of 2004) and "X Kant Conference: Classical Reason and Challenges of Contemporary Civilization" (April 22–24 of 2009). He also was an active participant of several International Kant Congresses, including those held in Memphis (1995), Berlin (2000) and Pisa (2010). Prof. Bryushinkin was several times invited to teach and carry out research by several European universities, such as the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz (1995) and the University of Bologna (2009). During these visits he established collaborative network of researches of Kant's philosophy in Russia and in other countries.

Kant's philosophy was not the only scientific interest of Vladimir Bryushinkin. In Russia and countries of former Soviet Union he is known as a talented theorist of logic and theory of argumentation. One of the biggest achievements of professor Bryushinkin is the establishment of a new branch of Kantian research, which exists in Kaliningrad since the late 1980s – the logical studies of Kantianism. It originated in Prof. Bryushinkin's logical works and it served two main purposes: 1) analysis of Kant's ideas by means of tools of contemporary logic; 2) appeal to Kant's ideas in order to find new ways of development in logic. However, for Prof. Bryushinkin Kant was not just an object of research or a historical figure; he also was a real interlocutor, with whom one could not only agree, but sometimes also disagree. Vladimir Bryushinkin's works on Kant's philosophy and logic are notable for their lucidity and accuracy of analysis. These works, starting with "Kant's Paradigms: logical form" (1985) and concluding with the article "Kant's Logic and Strawson's Metaphysics" (2011), could compile a sizeable book. Not long ago Prof. Bryushinkin started working on a book titled "Kant's Logic". Sadly, he did not have enough time to complete this project.

We will all be missing this sanguine, intelligent, many-sided and talented person. With him passed an entire era of philosophical life of Kaliningrad/Königsberg. He left for us a great number of plans and ideas, which, unfortunately, he could not realize himself. However, we hope that some of his bold projects will be accomplished by his students and colleagues.

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