

IN MEMORIAM

Else Margarete Barth (1928-2015)

Born in Strinda, Norway, Else Barth studied philosophy, physics, and mathematics in Trondheim, Oslo (with Arne Naess), and Amsterdam (with Evert Willem Beth). In 1971 she obtained a Ph.D from Leiden University, supervised by Gabriël Nuchelmans. From 1971 to 1977 she was a lecturer in logic at Utrecht University and from 1977 to 1993 a professor in analytic philosophy at the University of Groningen.

Her main contributions to philosophy are in argumentation theory, dialogue logic, formal semantics, and in the logical analysis of authoritarianism. She was an outspoken advocate of women's rights in academia. Her principal publications include *The Logic of the Articles in Traditional Philosophy* (1974), *From Axiom to Dialogue* (1982, with Erik Krabbe), *Problems, Functions and Semantic Roles* (1986, with Rob Wiche), *Women Philosophers: A Bibliography of Books* (1992), and *A Nazi Interior: Quisling's Hidden Philosophy* (2003). She influenced Frans van Eemeren and Rob Grootendorst as they developed their pragma-dialectical approach to argumentation. A *Festschrift* in her honour, *Empirical Logic and Public Debate* (edited by E.C.W. Krabbe, R.J. Dalitz and P.A. Smit) appeared in 1993.

An advocate of an “empiricist cultural reorientation” in logic, Barth wanted logic to contribute to a systematic “understanding and subsequent improvement of the models of thought and argument that are found in the *polis*.” In this respect she influenced such informal logic theorists as Maurice Finocchiaro and Ralph Johnson.

Else Barth was a friend of informal logic. In 1993 she accepted a Visiting Research Fellowship from the University of Windsor’s Humanities Research Group, and she served on the Editorial Board of *Informal Logic* from 1989 until 2007. We benefited from her academic advice as well as her warm friendship.

– The Editors, with a contribution from A.M. Tamminga