

Obituary Giorgio Tomaso Bagni (1958–2009)

Bruno D'Amore

Published online: 10 November 2009
© Springer Science + Business Media B.V. 2009



Giorgio Tomaso Bagni was born in Milano, Italy in 1958. He obtained a degree in Mathematics from the University of Padova (Italy) and followed post-graduate courses in Numerical Analysis (University of Calabria, Rende, Italy) and in Computer Science (IBM Novedrate, Milano). From 2000 to 2004, he was Assistant Professor of Complementary Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”. In 2004, he moved to the University of Udine, where he worked in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, until his unexpected death, which resulted from a bicycle accident in Treviso (Italy) on June 10th, 2009.

His first university positions were in the year 1994 to 1995 as Teaching Professor of History of Mathematics in the postgraduate course in Didactics of Mathematics and 1995 to 1996 as Teaching contract Professor of History of Mathematics for Didactics of Mathematics at the University of Bologna.

B. D'Amore (✉)
Universita di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
e-mail: damore@dm.unibo.it

In 1990, Giorgio started his studies in Didactics of Mathematics under the direction of Bruno D'Amore. They traveled intensively, giving courses and seminars. In 1997 to 1998, for instance, they gave some courses at the University of Querétaro, México. This period marked the beginning of a longstanding collaboration and the publication of several articles and books.

Since 2001, Giorgio was a member of “il Gruppo Nazionale per le Strutture Algebriche, Geometriche e le loro Applicazioni,” Istituto Nazionale di Alta Matematica Francesco Severi, (Rome, Italy). He was director of the “Master universitario di II livello in Didattica delle Scienze,” University of Udine, and a member of “il Consiglio di Presidenza” of the “Centro Ricerche Didattiche U. Morin” (Paderno del Grappa, Treviso, Italy). From 1999 to 2002, he was President of the Academy “Ateneo di Treviso,” legally recognized by the Italian Department of Culture (he served as Full Member of the Academy from 1996 to 2003, then as Honorary Member). From 2001 to 2002, he was editor of “Istituto dell’Enciclopedia Italiana G. Treccani” for the *History of Sciences (Storia della Scienza*, vol. VI, *L’età dei Lumi*, Rome 2002) and in 2007 for *Treccani Scuola*. From 1990 to 2000, he was a member of the “Nucleo di Ricerca in Didattica della Matematica,” Department of Mathematics, University of Bologna.

He was also a member of the Scientific Board of the journal “Bollettino dei Docenti di Matematica” (Bellinzona, Switzerland) as well as the Editorial Board of the journal “Progetto Alice” (Rome, Italy). He was a member of the scientific Board of Direction for the conferences “Incontri con la Matematica” n. 10, 11, 12, Castel San Pietro Terme (Bologna, 1996, 1997, 1998) and member of the Editorial Board of CERME-5 (5th Congress of the European Society for Research in Mathematics Education, Larnaca, Cyprus, 2007). In 2009, he was one of the conveners of the CERME-6 algebra working group. He gave invited lectures of Didactics of Mathematics and of History of Mathematics in several national and international meetings.

Giorgio was a regular collaborator with journals that solicited him in various capacities. No editor received Giorgio’s texts after a deadline. In fact, he was known for submitting his texts long before his deadlines. His generosity was legendary.

In the past few years, Giorgio became interested in a hermeneutic perspective to mathematics education. His last articles and two posthumous books deal with hermeneutics as he understood it from the work of Heidegger and Gadamer.

His friends and collaborators will always remember him as a good and responsible colleague, a fine and deep thinker, and an enthusiastic person of profound and inspiring philosophical and epistemological analysis.

Bruno D’Amore