IZWT

EINLADUNG ZUM KOLLOQUIUM

Prof. Dr. Dirk Schlimm

(McGill University Montreal/Canada)

Pasch's philosophy of mathematics

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In his "Vorlesungen über neuere Geometrie" (1882) Moritz Pasch (1843--1930) gave the first rigorous axiomatization of projective geometry, in which he also clearly formulated the view that deductions must be independent from the meanings of the non-logical terms involved. In addition, Pasch also presented in these lectures the main tenets of his philosophy of mathematics, which underlies all his foundational works and which he continued to elaborate on throughout the rest of his life. This philosophy is quite unique in combining an empiricist epistemology with a deductivist methodology of mathematics; his conception of axiomatic systems is rooted in the material tradition, which goes back to Euclid, but it also contains crucial aspects of modern formal axiomatics, which were taken up and developed further by Hilbert. This talk presents Pasch's philosophy of mathematics and is intended as a contribution towards a better understanding of the radical transition mathematics underwent at the turn of the twentieth century."

Prof. Dr. Dirk Schlimm is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Associate Member in the School of Computer Science at McGill University. He received his Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University in 2005, and studied previously at Trinity College Dublin and Technical University of Darmstadt. His research interests fall into the areas of history and philosophy of mathematics and science, epistemology, and cognitive science. In particular, he is interested in the developments in the 19th and early 20th century that led to the emergence of modern mathematics and logic, and in systematic investigations regarding axiomatics, analogical reasoning, concept formation, the use of notation, and theory development. He is also involved in editorial projects of the works of Bernays, Hilbert, and Carnap."

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