Paul E. Sigmund

Paul E. Sigmund, retired professor of politics at Princeton University, died on April 27, 2014 at the University Medical Center of Princeton at age 85. Sigmund was best known in Cusanus circles for his work on Nicholas of Cusa's political thought. His monograph Nicholas of Cusa and Medieval Political Thought was published by the Harvard University Press in 1963. Sigmund's translation of De concordantia catholica, The Catholic Concordance, appeared in the series Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought in 1991. In addition, he served on the Advisory Board of the American Cusanus Society and the Wissenschaftlicher Beirat der Cusanus-Gesellschaft. Sigmund focused otherwise on political theory, the history of political thought and comparative politics, publishing extensively on Latin American politics, including Liberation Theology.

Sigmund earned his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in 1950, and he received his PhD at Havard University in 1959. He taught at Harvard for four years before moving to Princeton in 1963. At Princeton Sigmund was a founder of the university's Program in Latin American Studies, which he directed for seven years. Among his awards were fellowships at the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars and the Institute for Advanced Study. Sigmund also received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation. In addition, Sigmund served on the boards of Georgetown University and the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs, and he was an active member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Sigmund was the first American academic to receive the Bernardo O'Higgins Order of Merit, awarded by the government of Chile for outstanding achievements, in 2001.

Paul Sigmund's wife, Barbara Boggs Sigmund, who served as mayor of the borough of Princeton, died of cancer in 1990. He was survived by his three sons Stephen, David, and Paul IV. and four grandchildren. Herr Professor Sigmund wurde am 2. Januar 1965 in den Wissenschaftlichen Beirat der Cusanus-Gesellschaft gewählt. Solange es seine Gesundheit zuließ, hat er sich mehrfach an den Symposien des Beirats beteiligt und fünf Aufsätze in den MFCG veröffentlicht.¹

Walter Andreas Euler, Trier

¹ PAUL SIGMUND, Konzilsidee und Kollegialität nach Cusanus, in: MFCG 5 (1965) 86–97; Das Fortleben des Nikolaus von Kues in der Geschichte des politischen Denkens, in: MFCG 7 (1969) 120–128; Das Verhältnis von Papst und Bischöfen nach Cusanus und sein Postulat eines »ständigen kleinen Konzils«, in: MFCG 21 (1994) 211–230; Konsens, Repräsentation und die Herrschaft der Mehrheit bei Marsilius und Cusanus, in: MFCG 24 (1998) 195–204; Vom mittelalterlichen zum modernen Verfassungsdenken: Kontinuität oder Wandel? Nikolaus von Kues, George Lawson und John Locke, in: MFCG 28 (2003) 233–248.