

UC Santa Barbara & Santa Cruz Professors Honored with Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award

The 2007 Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award honoring emeriti professors in the University of California system has been awarded to two men: Robert O. Collins, professor emeritus of history at UC Santa Barbara, and G. William Domhoff, professor emeritus of sociology at UC Santa Cruz.

Dr. Collins is a world-renowned expert on Africa whose influence extends from traditional scholarship to national security to film and television programming. He has been called “the clearest voice on Sudan in the world” and “the premier historian of the Nile River.” He is the only scholar to write the history of the Anuak, a Luo-speaking people who were massacred by the Ethiopian Army in 2003-2004.

Dr. Domhoff is a pioneer in the study of U.S. power relations, expanding his work in retirement to include analysis of race and gender. By one measure the best-selling author of all living academic sociologists, Dr. Domhoff has also made fundamental contributions to research on dream content, contributing to the development of a science of dreaming.

Professors Collins and Domhoff are the eighteenth and nineteenth UC emeriti professors to receive the Constantine Panunzio Award and the second from their respective universities. The late Dr. Panunzio, a professor of sociology at UCLA for many years, has been described as the architect of the UC Retirement System and was particularly active in improving pensions and stipends for his fellow emeriti. The award bearing his name was established in 1983 and includes a \$5,000 prize.

Robert O. Collins
Professor emeritus of history
UC Santa Barbara

Robert O. Collins, a recognized world authority on Africa and in particular the Sudan and the Nile River, has contributed his expertise not only to the scholarly world of historians but also to governments here and abroad, to national and international news media, and to the cultural milieu of film and television. Since he retired in 1994, Dr. Collins has published 15 books, “diverse in subject, immaculate in scholarship, and elegant in style,” says Ronald W. Tobin, associate vice chancellor of academic affairs at UCSB. “He has taken pains to make his discoveries accessible to students and the general literate public,

in addition to the world of specialists.” Three books appeared in the last year: *The Southern Sudan in Historical Perspective*, a brief primer for mainstream readers; *Alms for Jihad: Charity and Terrorism in the Islamic World*, with his long-time collaborator, anthropologist J. Millard Burr; and *Darfur: The Long Road to Disaster*, also with Dr. Burr. His popular *The Nile* was published in 2002, and in 2005, he responded to a request from his Sudan studies colleagues for a “best of Bob,” essays published between 1962 and 2004. Some of these essays were written as position papers for the Department of State, the National Security Council, and the Central Intelligence Agency, where he is a frequent consultant and adviser on Sudan affairs, terrorism, and the crisis in Darfur. He has also written on these topics for *Geopolitique Africaine* and for a Palestinian/Israeli website, *Bitterlemons*. National Public Radio and the BBC have interviewed him about events in Sudan and Darfur, and he is a regular adviser to *the New York Times*. Historical consultant for the Oscar-winning film, *The English Patient*, in 1996, his knowledge is sought after by film and TV producers. In 1998, he was the principal participant in the History Channel presentation, *Dr. Livingstone, I Presume*. In 2003, he gave long interviews for the BBC four-part series, *The Peoples of the Nile*, and served as consultant, chief adviser, and script writer for a documentary, *The Mystery of the Nile*, which appears in IMAX theaters. In the last project, he worked with the MacGillivray/Freeman Studios staff before production, then guided an expedition from the source of the Blue Nile 3,800 miles downriver to the Mediterranean. Along with these activities, Dr. Collins has found time to teach and serve his university. Since his retirement, he has continued to teach both on the main campus and at Off-Campus Centers in Ventura and Santa Maria. He also serves as an examiner of PhD qualifying examinations in African History. As UCSB’s Graduate Dean from 1970 to 1980, he laid the foundation for the graduate program, and he came out of retirement to serve as chair in selecting a director of summer sessions. He is a past winner of the Dickson Award, which honors the work of emeriti scholars at specific campuses. Professor of History Patricia Cline Cohen, who nominated him for that honor, says, “When we all dream of retiring, [Professor Collins] is the model many of us would wish to follow. In reality, hardly any of us will be able to pull it off. Bob does, with grace, good cheer, and a justified sense that his scholarship matters.”

G. William Domhoff
Professor emeritus of sociology
UC Santa Cruz

G. William Domhoff, a political sociologist who is widely regarded as the foremost authority on the structure of power in America, has taken his lifetime research in dynamic new directions in retirement, at the same time pursuing a separate agenda on the theory and practice of quantitative dream analysis. Signaling the subject of his life’s work with the title of his first book, *Who Rules America?*, Dr. Domhoff has clarified and tested ideas about the structure and evolution of power in America in an extensive research agenda. His newest work, including *Diversity in the Power Elite* and *Blacks in the White Elite*, coauthored with R. L. Zweigenhaft, examines how people get to the top—or not—when they are from groups that have previously had limited access to power. He is one of the few analysts of macro-power and elite status who analyzes gender and race, studying,

for example, the careers of black youth admitted to elite white prep schools. A household name in sociology, he has made major contributions to stratification theory, family sociology, and economic sociology as well as his field of specialization, political sociology. His works range from undergraduate textbooks to detailed research on America's dominant class. A website accompanying the fifth edition of *Who Rules America?*, published in 2006, provides teaching tools, as well as new data and compilations. In 2003's *Changing the Powers That Be*, Dr. Domhoff draws from his lifetime of scholarship on power and its social consequences to outline an activist role. Based on empirical analyses, this book attempts to reorient citizen-activists as well as intellectuals toward policies and strategies that have been largely overlooked. Harvey Molotch, a fellow sociologist at New York University, notes that, like Domhoff's other works, this book "is passionate in the best sense of the term—heartfelt urgings from someone who has invested a scholarly lifetime in efforts to figure out what is really going on and how to change things for the better." Since his retirement, Professor Domhoff has also published two books and about a dozen articles and book chapters on dreams. The two books—*Finding Meaning in Dreams* (1996) and *The Scientific Study of Dreams* (2003)—are important references for scholars who do content analysis of dreaming. Developing a theory and practice of quantitative dream analysis, he has taken a hardheaded approach to understanding the content of dreams, revealing important and sometimes surprising insights into the process and function of dreaming. Professor Domhoff also continues to teach, both at UC Santa Cruz and as a guest lecturer at various universities. He also served a term as the O'Connor Professor of American Institutions at Colgate University and was elected in 2004 as chair of the political sociology section of the American Sociological Association. Richard Flacks, research professor of sociology at UC Santa Barbara, says he "can't see any slackening of Bill Domhoff's scholarly energy and indeed can see a continuing development of his insight and creativity." Michael Burawoy, Goldman Professor of Social Sciences at UC Berkeley, calls him "a brilliant dynamo, shedding illumination wherever his travels—intellectual or geographical—take him." Professor Domhoff has a bachelor's degree from Duke University, a master's degree from Kent State University, and his PhD from the University of Miami. He began his career as an assistant professor of psychology at California State University, Los Angeles, and has worked at UC Santa Cruz since 1965.