Alexander W. Astin

Alexander W. Astin is Allan M. Cartter Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Higher Education and Founding Director of the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. He is also the Founding Director of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program and the author of 22 books and some 300 other publications in the field of higher education. Previously he served as Director of Research for both the American Council on Education and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Dr. Astin has been a recipient of awards for outstanding research from 13 national associations, a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, and a recipient of eleven honorary degrees, and is a member of the National Academy of Education. The Journal of Higher Education in both 1990 and 2010 identified Dr. Astin as the author most frequently cited by others in the field of higher education. In 1985 readers of Change magazine selected him as the person "most admired for creative, insightful thinking" in higher education. His most recent books include Mindworks: Becoming More Conscious in an Unconscious World (2007), (with H. S. Astin and J. A. Lindholm) Cultivating the Spirit: How Colleges Can Enhance Students’ Inner Lives (2011), and (with anthony l. antonio) Assessment for Excellence: The Philosophy and Practice of Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education (2012).