



Professor Robert McChesney 1952–2025

Colombia Support Network mourns the passing of Professor Robert McChesney of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who passed away at his home in Madison, Wisconsin on March 27, 2025 at age 72. Bob was a very talented observer and commentator on the press and its development in the United States and elsewhere. Bob analyzed the press in the United States and abroad. He wrote of its shortcomings and how they affected our understanding of events and their impact. As Jeff Cohen, writing for Fairness and Accuracy in Media (FAIR), “no one did more to analyze the negative and censorial impacts of our media and information systems being controlled by giant, amoral corporations.”

Bob took the time and effort to explain his path-breaking ideas to members of the Colombia Support Network in presentations we were fortunate to have him make. He joined with Wisconsin-based journalist John Nichols to analyze developments in the public media in several articles and books. Bob has left a rich legacy of essays and books analyzing the press and its manipulation by special interests to the detriment of our understanding of the truth in many respects. His passing away at age 72 silences a fundamentally important voice for honesty and probity in public expression. We will miss his courageous expression of the truth, but we will keep his analyses and guidance in mind.