

ARNOVA

Presents the

2023 Distinguished Achievement and Leadership in Nonprofit & Voluntary Action Award

to

Richard Steinberg

The Distinguished Achievement and Leadership in Nonprofit & Voluntary Action Award Committee is pleased to share with the Board its recommendations for the 2023 Distinguished Achievement Award.

Richard (known to many of us as Rich) Steinberg has been a pillar of excellence in nonprofit studies over the past four decades in terms of his scholarship, leadership, and community-building for ARNOVA and for the field of nonprofit studies.

His early contributions to research in the economics of nonprofit organizations were foundational and path breaking. Rich was the attractive force that brought many economists into the ARNOVA orbit and the generation of economists he mentored brought philanthropy and the nonprofit sector into the mainstream of economic research. By the close of the 1980s, he had authored a key chapter ("Nonprofits and the Market") in Walter Powell's iconic *The Nonprofit Sector: A Research Handbook* (Yale, 1986) (and went on to co-edit the second edition of that volume) and a dozen other articles and book chapters on topics whose centrality to nonprofit economics and nonprofit studies we now take for granted: competition between for-profit and nonprofit enterprises, efficient fundraising, tax incentives and charitable giving, and the provision of public goods.

His later work turned to the study of individual philanthropy included the development of first-rate data on giving and volunteering within the rich sociological and economic framework of the long-running Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID). In the 2000s, Rich played a part in developing one of the great data sets available to scholars interested in giving and volunteering behavior in the United States. Along with colleagues at what was then called the Center on Philanthropy at IU (and now is called the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy), Rich was part of an effort that led to the inclusion of a module on giving and volunteering administered as part of the venerable Panel Study of Income Dynamics. The module has yielded high-quality giving and volunteering data from a representative set of households, linked to extensive demographic and labor-market data, following a panel of households through time. In addition, Rich's coauthored 2008 paper "The Intergenerational Transmission of Generosity" (*Journal of Public Economics*) has been cited hundreds of times and serves as an example of the potential of this remarkable data set.

While building an academic discipline and a network of nonprofit economists, Rich was also building the institutional infrastructure for nonprofit studies. Rich served as co-president of ARNOVA, with Kristen Gronbjerg, from 1992 to 1994. This was a critical period for ARNOVA, when it became a truly professional organization. During this period, ARNOVA obtained its first significant foundation grants, doubled the size of its membership and tripled participation in the annual conference, developed an awards programs, established its office in Indianapolis, developed a 5-year strategic plan, and put in place the finances for hiring ARNOVA's professional staffing including its first executive director. In addition, Rich was a deputy editor of *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* from 1992 to 1997. His ARNOVA-fostered interest in and ability to reach across disciplinary boundaries can be seen in his service on the editorial boards of *Nonprofit Management and Leadership* and the *International Journal of Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Marketing*. In addition, Rich Steinberg has been an integral part of the development of the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. The IU Lilly Family School of

Philanthropy, and its earlier incarnation as the IUPUI Center on Philanthropy at IU, are widely credited with being the first school of philanthropy and the first institution to award degrees in philanthropic studies. As part of that curriculum, Rich developed one of the first graduate classes on the Economics of Philanthropy. He served on the Center's Board of Visitors for several years, and he has been engaged with our faculty governance since "time immemorial."

Rich also has been influential in his contributions to the creation of an ARNOVA community. His guidance has helped and inspired numerous students and young scholars. Anyone who has attended an ARNOVA conference knows Rich as the guy with the answers and insights in almost every session he attends, reflecting his encyclopedic recall of relevant sources and citations on the spot. They also know him for his extraordinary willingness and patience to guide and assist colleagues and students, especially younger scholars.

Richard Steinberg's scholarly record, leadership in the establishment of the field of nonprofit studies, and ongoing teaching, mentorship, and collegiality in the ARNOVA community makes him more than worthy of ARNOVA's 2023 Distinguished Achievement and Leadership in Nonprofit and Voluntary Action Research Award.