Dedication to Charles H. Powers

The Department of Sociology is very proud to dedicate this year’s issue of the Silicon Valley Sociological Review, our flagship undergraduate journal, to our colleague Charles H. Powers. After more than four decades of service to academia, and 35 years at Santa Clara University, our friend and colleague Chuck has decided to retire at the end of the 2021 academic year.

We received Chuck’s decision with mixed emotions. One the one hand, we celebrate his many accomplishments and contributions to our profession, university, and department. At the same time, however, we know it will be very difficult to move forward without his presence and contributions. With his retirement, we’ll miss an excellent colleague and a distinguished sociologist who set the bar very high for the rest of us to emulate. During his tenure at Santa Clara, Chuck was very generous with his time, serving the university in various capacities including as department chair from 1994 to 2000 and 2011 to 2013. He was also elected to various leadership positions at the American Sociological Association, the Pacific Sociological Association, and the California Sociological Association, as well as to several academic editorial boards. His list of publications is equally copious and meritorious, particularly in the field of sociological theory where his books went through several editions and translations. Chuck was also the recipient of multiple merit awards. In Santa Clara, for instance, he won excellence awards for advising, teaching, and his tenure as chair. He was elected to participate in a Fulbright-Hays Seminar in Brazil.

For those of us who have had the privilege of working with Chuck, we’ll also miss his devotion to the department, his contributions and collaborations, his fairness. We wish Chuck the very best and look forward to his continuous association with us.

Enrique S. Pumar
Fay Boyle University Professor and
Department of Sociology Chair