



**PAUL SIMON  
PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE**

YEAR *in* REVIEW | **2022**

**SIU** Southern Illinois University  
CARBONDALE





Paul Simon speaks during a campaign stop in the final days of his 1988 presidential campaign. © 1988 Martin H. Simon



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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Dear Friends,

As we embark on the next 25 years following the Simon Institute's Silver Anniversary, Director John Shaw and his team are staying true to Dad's vision with programs like the Renewing Illinois Summit, the Paul Simon – Jim Edgar Statesmanship Award, and will soon launch a new, motivating tool for students – The Paul Simon Democracy Prize. Designed to help revitalize democracy in Illinois communities, three prizes of \$5,000 each will be awarded to current Illinois college and university students through a video application process. Stay tuned for details...

As always, none of these good works could happen without the generous support of our friends and donors. Thank you for continuing to support the Simon Institute and the legacy of my dad!

Cheers,

MARTIN H. SIMON, BOARD CHAIR



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Pulliam Clocktower is pictured on the Southern Illinois University Carbondale campus.



## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dear Friends,

Paul Simon's timeless example of steadfast civility and courageous problem solving has never been more relevant—nor has the work of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute ever been more essential.

The Institute's compelling and distinctive programs promote "better politics, smarter government." These programs strengthen the Institute in Illinois and across the United States and give us substantial international exposure. The Institute remains committed to offering opportunities to students that prepare and inspire them for careers in public service.

The Institute had a productive year in 2022 as we resumed in-person events and continued our strong virtual presence.

The *Understanding our New World* series will reach its three-year anniversary this spring. We are pleased with the quality of events and the considerable reach it has given the Institute.

Our events have featured six Pulitzer Prize-winning authors and such luminaries as Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland; Donald McHenry, former American ambassador to the United Nations; William Burns, then president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and now director of the CIA; Pete Buttigieg, now U.S. Secretary of Transportation; Rahm Emanuel, now U.S. ambassador to Japan; Sherrod Brown, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee; Ruth Simmons, former president of Brown University and Smith College and current president of Prairie View A&M; and Leon Panetta, former secretary of defense and former CIA director.

More than 10,000 people have registered for these conversations from 44 states and territories and 28 countries; our videos have attracted more than 50,000 views on YouTube.

The Institute's *Meet the Mayor* and *Illinois Authors* conversations are popular in Illinois and are an important tool to connect with the state's political and literary communities.

The Institute launched a series called *Congressional Conversations* in 2022 in which we host an annual conversation with a member of the Illinois congressional delegation. We began with an excellent discussion with Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi from Illinois' eighth congressional district. Each year, we will invite a member of the Illinois delegation to Carbondale for a day-and-a-half visit so he or she can meet with students, community leaders, and give a public lecture.

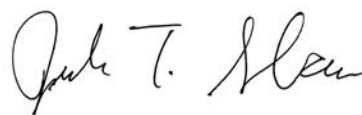
The Institute continued to work with former Governor Jim Edgar on the *Simon-Edgar Award* to celebrate statesmanship in Illinois. We have received dozens of compelling nominations for this award including submissions by Illinois House Speaker Chris Welch, Senator Richard Durbin, former Senate President John Cullerton, the presidents of the University of Illinois, Illinois State University, and Millikin University, and a dozen state senators and representatives. The *Simon-Edgar Award* has already become a coveted award in Illinois political life; it has enhanced the Institute and burnished SIU's reputation.

As part of our commitment to strengthen Illinois, the Institute hosted our second *Renewing Illinois* Summit for Illinois university students last fall. The Summit drew students from ten universities and included presentations by House Speaker Chris Welch, former Illinois congressman and U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza, and Erika Harold, director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. Speaker Welch's trip to Carbondale was noteworthy; he is the first serving Illinois House Speaker to visit the SIU Carbondale campus in nearly two decades.

The Institute's overarching commitment is to advocate for public policy and public service that is civil, courageous, rigorous, and transparent—reflecting the best of Paul Simon.

We are very grateful for your generous support that has allowed the Institute to contribute positively to the policy debate in Illinois and across the nation.

Sincerely,



JOHN T. SHAW, INSTITUTE DIRECTOR







**WIDE-RANGING CONVERSATIONS**

# Paul Simon Public Policy Institute





## UNDERSTANDING OUR NEW WORLD

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We continued the Understanding our New World series of virtual conversations to learn how fundamental political and cultural changes continue to shape our collective future.

We hosted 19 Understanding Our New World conversations in 2022 with a diverse array of speakers covering a wide range of topics, including climate change, US. Foreign and domestic policy, global diplomacy, cybersecurity, philanthropy, racial justice, higher education, and poetry.

We are continuing this series in 2023. Visit [paulsimoninstitute.org/events](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/events) to see who we'll be speaking with and register to join us.



**Karin Olofsdotter**  
Sweden's Ambassador to the  
United States



**Janel Forde**  
Director, Illinois Central  
Management Services



**Julian Zelizer**  
Professor of History & Public  
Affairs, Princeton University



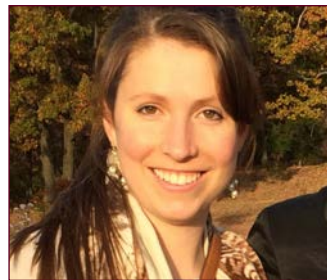
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**Understanding Our New World** conversations can be found on our YouTube channel  
[YOUTUBE.COM/PAULSIMONINSTITUTE](https://www.youtube.com/paulsimoninstitute)



## MEET THE MAYOR



### GETTING TO KNOW ILLINOIS'S MUNICIPAL LEADERS

Institute Director John Shaw continued to meet with mayors in Illinois to learn about the challenges and opportunities they are confronting. We heard how mayors are grappling with the lingering effects of Covid-19 pandemic, the surge in crime, and the challenges of economic development.

**The mayors we met in 2022 were:**



**Robert Eastern III**  
Mayor of East St. Louis



**Cathy Adduci**  
Village President of River Forest



**Deborah Frank Feinen**  
Mayor of Champaign



Watch **Meet the Mayor** and **Illinois Authors** conversations on our YouTube channel  
[YOUTUBE.COM/PAULSIMONINSTITUTE](https://www.youtube.com/paulsimoninstitute)



## ILLINOIS AUTHORS

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### MEETING THE WRITERS THAT BRING THE PRAIRIE STATE TO LIFE

The Institute launched our Illinois Authors series in 2021 to learn about the writers who are shaping our understanding of Illinois' past and present and who are helping us envision our state's future.



The authors we had conversations with in 2022 were:



**Douglas Wilson**  
"Lincoln's Sword: The Presidency and the Power of Words"



**Ray Long**  
"The House that Madigan Built"



**Jennifer Close**  
"Marrying the Ketchups"

### ILLINOIS 101 RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Want to dive deeper into Illinois history, culture, or politics?

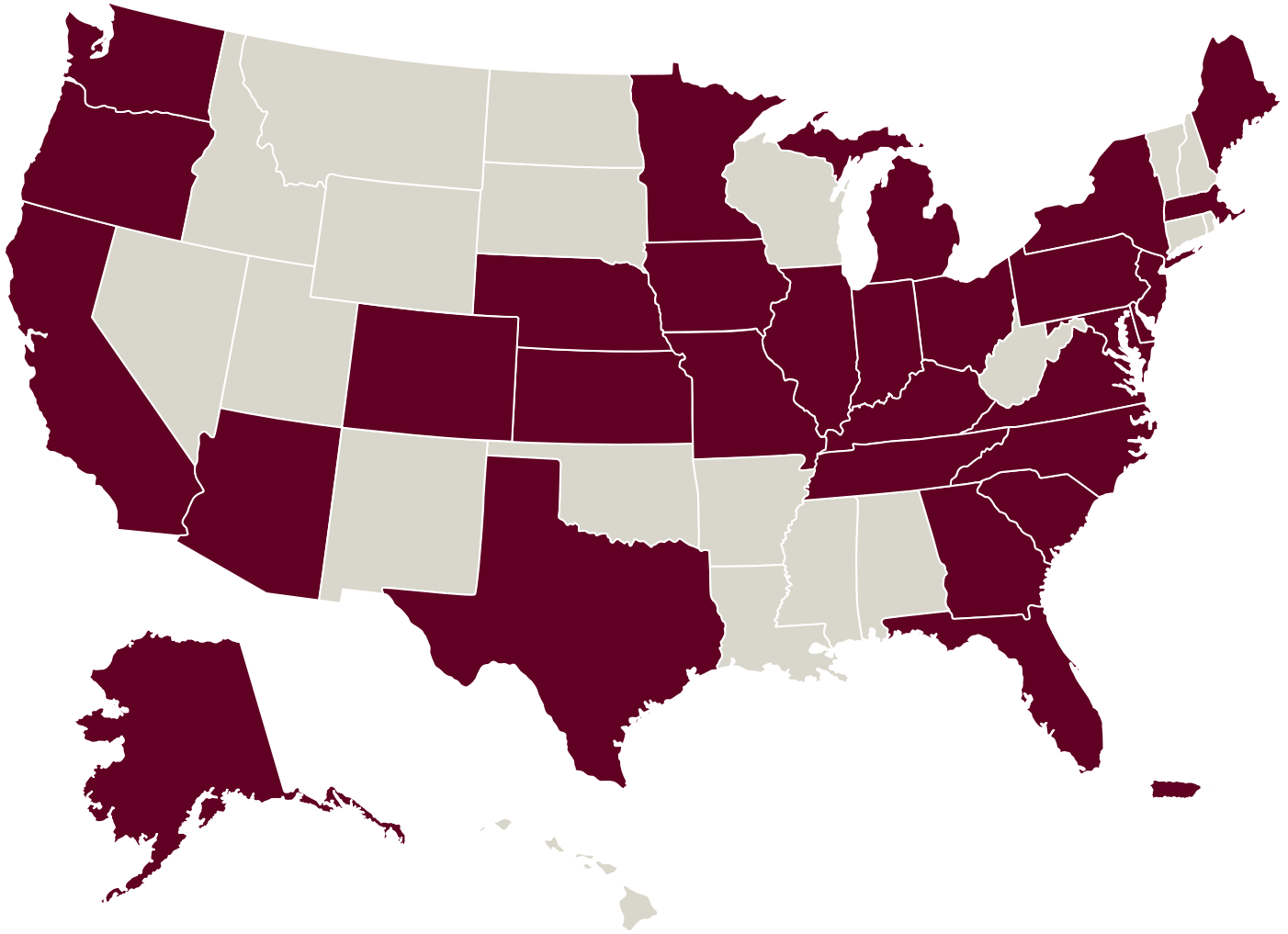
Download *Illinois 101*, a collection of essential reading recommendations from state leaders, at

[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/ILLINOIS101](https://PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/ILLINOIS101)

OR contact us for a hard copy.



VIRTUAL EVENT  
**REACH**  
IN 2022



**33** STATES &  
TERRITORIES

*Data collected December 2022*



# 10

- 1 AUSTRALIA
- 2 CANADA
- 3 FRANCE
- 4 INDIA
- 5 INDONESIA
- 6 JAPAN
- 7 SLOVENIA
- 8 SWEDEN
- 9 UNITED KINGDOM
- 10 UNITED STATES

COUNTRIES



26,298  
 YouTube  
VIEWS

3,600+  
AUDIENCE  
REACHED











**BETTER POLITICS, SMARTER GOVERNMENT**



## PAUL SIMON-JIM EDGAR STATESMANSHIP AWARD

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### FORMER HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER BARBARA FLYNN CURRIE SELECTED AS RECIPIENT OF 2022 SIMON-EDGAR AWARD

Former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar and John Shaw, director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, presented the 2022 Paul Simon-Jim Edgar Statesmanship Award to former House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie on August 9, 2022 in Champaign.

Edgar and Shaw applauded Representative Currie's four decades of forceful, creative, consequential, and civil leadership in the Illinois General Assembly.

Currie served in the General Assembly from 1979 to 2019 and was the House Majority Leader from 1997 to 2019. She helped create Illinois' Earned Income Tax Credit, championed clean air and water legislation, pushed for the first Freedom of Information Act, advocated for same sex marriage legislation, crafted critical school funding and juvenile justice reforms, and fought to end the death penalty in Illinois.

A pioneer for women legislators, Currie entered the General Assembly in 1979 when only about 10% of its members were women and no women held senior leadership posts. Her 40-year career in the General Assembly remains the longest of any woman in the history of Illinois.

The annual Simon-Edgar Statesmanship Award is presented to an elected state or local government official in Illinois who has demonstrated a pattern of public service characterized by vision, courage, compassion, effectiveness, civility, and bipartisanship.

The Simon-Edgar Award shines a spotlight on remarkable leadership that is taking place in our state and our communities, inspiring current and future public servants to act in the best traditions of Illinois.

Illinois Residents, including political, academic, and business leaders, nominated dozens of state, city, and county officials for the Simon-Edgar Award. Look for nominations for the 2023 award to open in the spring at [paulsimoninstitute.org/SimonEdgarAward](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/SimonEdgarAward).



*Photo credit: Janet Mathis, Executive Director of Edgar Fellows Program*



# Simon-Edgar

## STATESMANSHIP AWARD



## RENEWING ILLINOIS SUMMIT

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Journalist Panel

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute hosted our second *Renewing Illinois* Summit on SIU's campus on September 29 and September 30, 2022. The Summit drew students from about ten universities and included presentations by House Speaker Chris Welch, former Illinois congressman and U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza, and Erika Harold, director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. Speaker Welch's trip to Carbondale was noteworthy; he is the first serving Illinois House Speaker to visit the SIU Carbondale campus in nearly two decades. During his visit, the Speaker met with leaders from the university. The Summit also featured a panel with journalists who discussed how they report on, and write about, Illinois.



Student Group



Shaw/Welch

For more information, visit  
[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/RENEWINGIL](https://PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/RENEWINGIL)





Caption



A photograph of three young women standing on a grand, ornate marble staircase. The woman on the left is wearing a black turtleneck, a black pinstriped blazer, and black trousers. The woman in the middle is wearing a black blazer, a patterned top, maroon trousers, and tan boots. The woman on the right is wearing a grey and white color-block sweater, black trousers, and black shoes. The background features a large, ornate chandelier and classical architectural details like columns and decorative moldings.

**FUTURE PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERS**



## INTERNSHIPS

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2022 Springfield interns (from left to right: Mallory Harrity, Crystal Kendzior, Chelsey Valera, Ajara Yakoubou, and Vivian Walter)

### 2022 SPRINGFIELD INTERNS

**Mallory Harrity**  
*Gene Callahan Intern*  
Illinois House of  
Representatives

**Crystal Kendzior**  
*Gene Callahan Intern*  
Illinois House of  
Representatives

**Chelsey Varela**  
*Latino Heritage Intern*  
Illinois Senate

**Ajara Yakoubou**  
*Alexander Lane Intern*  
Illinois Senate

**Vivian Walter**  
*Barb Brown Intern*  
Liz Brown Consulting

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Learn how you can support our students at

**PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/SUPPORT**





Institute interns meet with Speaker of the House, Chris Welch.

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## SOCIAL WORK INTERN

**Spring 2022** **Valeria Beltran** was the spring 2022 social work intern. She monitored the healthcare committee in the Illinois General Assembly and her research focused on human trafficking and creating change at the macro-policy level.

**VALERIA BELTRAN**

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## VINCE DEMUZIO GOVERNMENTAL INTERN

**Fall 2022** **Ryan Jurich** was the fall 2022 Vince Demuzio Intern. He worked in the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office. He is a senior studying economics.

**RYAN JURICH**

## 2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Emma Braning**  
*Barb Brown Memorial  
Scholarship*

**Yasmina Amley**  
*Barb Brown Memorial  
Scholarship*

**Rylee Conner**  
*Edwin D. Phillips  
Debate Team Scholarship*

**Nia Williams**  
*Jeanne Hurley Simon  
Memorial Scholarship*

**Shelby Lynch**  
*Barb Brown Memorial  
Scholarship*

**Chloe Goldbach**  
*David Yepsen  
Director's Award*

**Mackenzie Piazza**  
*Jeanne Hurley Simon  
Memorial Scholarship*

**Tori Matthews**  
*Mike Lawrence  
Scholarship*

## SIMON REVIEW

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We published two *Simon Review* research papers this year.

*Biden, Trump, Durbin, and Taxes: The 2020 Election in Illinois* by Dr. John S. Jackson and Dr. John L. Foster.

*The Church and Michael Brown: The Influence of Christianity on Racialized Political Attitudes in Ferguson, Missouri* by Dr. Tyler Chance

Read the reports at  
[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/PUBLICATIONS](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/publications)

## MORTON-KENNEY

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The Morton-Kenney Public Affairs Lecture Series is presented by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and SIU's political science department. The lectures occur in the spring and fall of each year. The late Jerome Mileur, an SIU alumnus, established the series in 1995 in honor of two of his political science professors—Ward Morton and David Kenney—who inspired him as a student.

**The lectures in 2022 were:**

**Christina Wolbrecht**, professor of political science at the University of Notre Dame.

Her lecture was entitled, "Rhetoric and Reality: A Century of Votes for Women"

**Elizabeth Hinton**, professor of history and African-American Studies at Yale University.

Her lecture was called, "Cairo on Fire: State Violence, Black Rebellion and the Ongoing Struggle for Democracy in America."





## BUILDING A STRONGER ILLINOIS

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**Future of Illinois Project:**  
Assessing fundamental challenges facing Illinois.



**Congressional Conversations:**  
Discussing critical issues with Illinois' congressional delegation.



**Illinois Authors:**  
Meeting the writers who bring the Prairie State to life.



**Meet the Mayor:**  
Getting to know Illinois' municipal leaders.



**Simon-Edgar Award:**  
Celebrating statesmanship in Illinois government.



**Better Politics, Smarter Government:**  
Statewide public policy op-eds.



**Renewing Illinois Summit:**  
Bringing students together to revitalize the Prairie State.



**Public Affairs Internships:**  
Training future public service leaders.



**Illinois 101:**  
State leaders' must-reads for a deeper understanding of Illinois history and culture.







A photograph of a modern building with a covered walkway and a person walking on a path. The building features a flat roof and large windows. A person is walking away from the camera on a paved path that runs alongside the building. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a clear blue sky. A dark red banner with white text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# OUR THANKS

Our building is pictured on the Southern Illinois University Carbondale campus.



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Famous for wearing bow ties and horn-rimmed glasses, Paul Simon was a two-term U.S. senator from Illinois who served from 1985 to 1997 and ran for president in 1988. After retiring from public office, Simon founded the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale to research and provide constructive public policy resources, encourage others to take part in conversations on the issues of our time, and support the next generation of public leaders. After his passing in 2003, the Institute was renamed in his honor.

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