How has September 11th changed the role of the Institute—or has it?

It has temporarily made the entire nation more sensitive to reaching out to one another, to the role that our government plays in securing a stable society, and to being more aware of the concerns of those beyond our borders. Whether these changes are temporary or not we will soon know. My guess is that as the perceived threat diminishes, the nation’s interest in public affairs will diminish, but there will be a residue of greater concern and attention. That is good.

It also means that the work of the Institute is more important than ever. In a variety of ways we have been doing constructive things that have helped and will help.

When we brought faith leaders together to look at the response of the religious community to the problems of poverty in our nation, we brought Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders together plus a few who don’t fall easily into any category, such as Unitarians. Imam Wallace Mohammed, a national and responsible leader for Islam, was one of the participants. During my service in the Senate I arranged for him to have an opening prayer for one of the days we were in session, was significant, in addition to the importance of the call for greater action by the faith community on poverty. As Dr. Richard L. Hamm, general minister of the Disciples of Christ, observed, the various groups had issued joint statements that everyone put together but he did not remember such a variety of religious leaders ever actually working together on something.

That in itself was a contribution. Everyone who participated learned from each other.

The second thing that is clear from September 11th is that we have to become more sensitive to the beliefs and concerns of the rest of the world. The United States is 4 percent of the world’s population and we will have to pay more attention to the other 96 percent.

Our Public Policy Institute has looked at problems ranging from lessons to be learned from the genocide in Rwanda, which took 800,000 to a million lives, to how to get more young people interested in international affairs.

We held a symposium on

Continued on Page 2
Author Harry Mark Petrakis speaks of life’s “extraordinary journey”

Author Harry Mark Petrakis, a nominee for the prestigious National Book Award, spoke of life as a storyteller—“That is what I think principally I am,”—at an Institute-sponsored event in October.

“Any writer begins with the raw experiences of life,” Petrakis said. “We are primarily an immigrant society. I cannot know yours, I only know mine.”

Petrakis, who was reared in Chicago, was born to a Greek orthodox priest and his wife, who came to America from Crete in 1916 with their four oldest children.

Memories of growing up in “the old inner city neighborhood where we lived” that would be his father’s final parish remain strong, often working their way into Petrakis’ writing as does his Greek heritage.

Writers must have a tragic side, Petrakis told his audience. “By that I do not mean brooding. I do not mean a bleak assessment of life, but simply awareness that the moment we are born, we are old enough to die. We begin that journey. Some-

Harry Mark Petrakis

times it is cut short by war, disaster, disease, and sometimes it stretches into decades.”

Petrakis spoke of life as an “extraordinary journey” and said it is the knowledge of death “that gives life its savor, its savor, and makes us aware that time is important.”

“I have learned much and I have forgotten much,” Petrakis said. “I have learned that if there is anything truer than truth it is legend. Not all are destined to chase Ahab’s whale, but what a majestic epic each life is.”

Author Harry Mark Petrakis speaks of life’s “extraordinary journey”
Coretta Scott King speaks from experience. She was there when her 28-year-old husband invited an inexperienced 28-year-old Illinois state representative to speak in Montgomery, Ala. on the second anniversary of the Montgomery bus boycott. It was years before the Civil Rights Act of 1964, years before the philosophy of nonviolent protest became a familiar concept, and years before African Americans could drink from the same fountains as their lighter-skinned counterparts.

Forty-five years ago, then-Ill. Rep. Paul Simon accepted the invitation from the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to speak in Montgomery. That was the first time that Simon had the chance to meet Mrs. King and the King’s (at the time) two children.

Martin Luther King Jr., Nobel Peace Prize winner of 1964 and father of this country’s nonviolent protest movement, was assassinated in 1968. Mrs. King, valedictorian of her high school class, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music in voice and violin, partner to her husband’s ideals, and mother of four, was left to carry on.

Mrs. King spoke at SIUC at the Institute’s invitation on “What I Have Learned and Would Like to Pass On.” The visit was cosponsored by SIUC’s Black Affairs Council. King spoke eloquently of valuable lessons learned in her lifetime. “In terms of influencing public policy, one of the most important is the power of disciplined, nonviolent protest to correct injustice and create community.”

Mrs. King often referred to her husband’s legacy and philosophy that changed a nation and that “inspired an explosion of nonviolent campaigns that emulated our protest tactics and strategies, that all credited our nonviolent movement as their source.”

If we are to honor Martin Luther King Jr.’s great legacy, said Mrs. King, “then let us reaffirm our opposition to all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudice, including that which is directed against Muslim and Arab people. There are extremists and fanatics who claim to be members of every religion. Terrorists do not represent the overwhelming majority of Muslims and Arab people who are good and decent human beings.”

“Let us dare to dream of a peace that humanity has never known … Our challenge tonight is to convert this beautiful dream into a radiant reality.”

First Jeanne Hurley Simon Scholarships awarded

Jeanne Hurley Simon will be fondly remembered by many for her dedication to various causes. But perhaps she will be best remembered as a champion of libraries.

Her death on February 20, 2000, led to the establishment of the Jeanne Hurley Simon Memorial Library Endowment fund to recognize her lifetime commitment to education and libraries.

The fund provides annual support for faculty development and scholarships to students who work as student assistants at SIUC’s Morris Library or to students who aspire to work in libraries after graduation, either as volunteers or in other capacities.

Three $500 scholarships were awarded last May 10, which would have been Simon’s 78th birthday. The three recipients were:

- Jimmie L. Gibson of Bloomington, a graduate assistant at Morris Library who graduated in December 2001 with a master’s degree in interactive multimedia;
- Sara L. Hance of Jacksonville, a student assistant in the library’s Social Sciences division, who graduated in December 2001 with a bachelor’s degree in philosophy;
- Stacey L. Young of Valier, a student assistant/supervisor in the library’s preservation department. Young holds a bachelor’s degree in art and is pursuing a master’s degree in creative writing at SIUC.
James Baker to aspiring politicians: First, get a life

James Baker, a “nonpolitical practicing lawyer for 22 years in Texas,” is the only person to serve as chief of staff to two presidents. He’s also been secretary of state, secretary of the treasury, and manager of five presidential races.

As the speaker for the Institute’s Morton-Kenney Lecture Series, Baker found himself in a unique situation: “I’ve never before spoken on what I have learned and would like to pass on.”

Baker rose to the occasion, sharing his wisdom and advice gleaned from 30 years in national politics.

Baker’s first point was “a simple lesson in some ways” that came from his father, who also was a lawyer. The lesson: “Prior preparation prevents poor performance.”

Practicing the five Ps helped Baker as he prepared to take over his White House position. “I tried to talk to the people, Democrat and Republican, who had held the office before me. To succeed in government one must show up with a plan of action to capture the office. Without such a plan, the office will capture you.”

Those who aspire to elective politics or appointed office, Baker’s advice is that “you first get a life. Learn a profession, get a family, work for a living. Power is very ephemeral. Put family, faith and profession first, politics second. I think our government is better served with those who have had the experience of being governed.”

With his final point, Baker challenged the audience: “We are the most fortunate people who ever lived on the face of the earth. Our challenge now is to help others. Great leaders are those who understand that it’s better to see flags halfway up the hill than lying at the bottom. Leadership is not something ethereal, esoteric. We can realize our potential on this earth only if we are committed to something larger than ourselves.”

John Jackson joins Public Policy Institute

John S. Jackson, a nationally known political scientist and former SIUC interim chancellor, has joined the Public Policy Institute as a visiting professor.

“I have known and greatly respected John Jackson for more than a quarter of a century as he established himself as an expert in politics and public policy-making and also served effectively and honorably in several university administrative positions. This appointment brings to the Institute an uncommon blend of scholarship and practical experience,” Simon said.

One of Jackson’s major assignments will be to help develop a long-range strategic plan for the institute. He also will assist in shaping and implementing ongoing and future Institute initiatives.

“I am proud of what our Institute has been able to accomplish in just a few years. But we want to continue building on the solid foundation we have established, and John’s strong academic credentials, energy, ingenuity and dedication to good government will help us chart a course that will help the Institute to reach its full potential,” Simon said.
Institute leads pioneering effort to combat smoking among college-age women

Responding to a challenge posed by the Illinois Department of Public Health, an Institute-led initiative is developing a model program for combating smoking among college-age women.

“Smoking is alarmingly on the rise in this sector of our population, and we appreciate the department’s confidence in us as it wages its campaign against tobacco use,” said Mike Lawrence, the Institute’s associate director.

“This initiative allows us once again to tap the expertise on the Southern Illinois University campus in an effort to make a positive difference well beyond our region and even the state.”

Partnering with the Institute are SIUC’s College of Applied Sciences and Arts, the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, the College of Liberal Arts, the Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development, Student Health Programs, SIU Broadcasting and the Jackson County Health Department.

The state health agency is funding the initiative through a $900,000 grant to the Institute.

“The department and we agreed that SIUC offers an excellent laboratory for creating, developing and implementing strategies that ultimately could be transplanted to other campuses in the state and the nation,” Lawrence said. “We have one of the most diverse student bodies in Illinois. The University also is located outside of a major media market; therefore, the effectiveness of specially developed anti-smoking messages and initiatives can be measured more accurately.”

Faculty and students are playing a key role in the project. Several are involved in focus group and survey work. Others will help develop media strategies based on the results of the focus groups and surveys.

Project leaders also will determine whether public policy changes both within the University and the surrounding community would assist in deterring smoking among college-age women.

In addition, there will be direct cessation and prevention interventions through SIUC dental and medical treatment centers and other student services.
David Broder called it an "unusually good campaign" when he spoke at SIUC about the 2000-2001 presidential contest and the "36 days of hell" that followed.

Broder, longtime Washington Post columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner, had been scheduled to speak much earlier. But in the election’s aftermath, when votes were disputed and “chads” became a household word, Broder found himself ordering Chinese food at 10 p.m. every night from the newsroom and longing for the comforts of home while he awaited ultimate results from election central.

When the issue was settled and Broder got the chance to come to SIUC at the Institute’s invitation, he took the opportunity to analyze the campaign. He called it an outstanding campaign that stressed such issues as prioritized spending in government, revenue, reforms in education, Social Security, national defense needs, and Medicare.

When voters went to the polls, however, “it was almost as if two different countries in diametric opposition, were voting.”

Women were more likely to vote for Gore, men for Bush. Urban areas went for Gore, rural for Bush. Suburbs split evenly. Those who go to church every Sunday or almost every Sunday were likely to vote for Bush, while those who occasionally or never went to church favored Gore.

“What that said to me,” Broder said, “was that even in absence of powerful divisive issues, it revealed an extremely deep cleavage in American society.”

And while neither was a great speaker, both “performed relatively credibly in debates,” Broder said. “Both showed energy, stamina, and in the 36 days that followed, an amazing self-discipline.”

In the end, however, both parties lost strength, a phenomenon that rarely happens, Broder said. “The Democrats lost control of the White House and the Republicans saw the Senate majority disappear, as well as part of the majority in the House and several governorships.”

“People ask if I predict confrontation or cooperation. The answer is yes,” Broder joked. “It’s clear there will be very sharp partisan debate in such areas as taxes, the environment, and regulations issues.”

Bush is off to a good start, Broder said, and he has put together a cabinet made up of CEOs and heads of business and industry—people who are accustomed to being in charge.

“Fewer from the political world are running things,” Broder said.
Rwandan horror still haunts Canadian general

Canadian Lt. Gen. Romeo Dallaire, former head of the United Nations Peacekeeping force in Rwanda, spoke at SIUC as a follow-up to the Public Policy Institute’s 1999 symposium on “Genocide in Rwanda; How Do We Escape Repeating History?”

Dallaire witnessed indescribable horrors in Rwanda as extremist Hutus massacred more than 800,000 Tutsis and Hutus during the span of a few days in 1994. Dallaire, who pleaded for help from the international community but got none, suffers from post-traumatic stress because of the “catastrophe of humanity” that he saw.

The lone voice trying to help him in that time, Dallaire said, was Paul Simon, then chair of the Subcommittee on Africa for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

“Paul Simon was the only voice I heard in the heart of Africa from the Western world,” Dallaire said. “I still cannot describe to him the impact of having such an interested, powerful, friendly voice wanting to help.”

“Sometimes decisions under difficult conditions,” he said, “can ultimately cause the destruction of a nation on the face of the earth and seven years later, create a destabilizing effect in the whole of central Africa.”

Although his experience in Rwanda left lasting scars, Dallaire today works to make others aware of the effects of post-traumatic stress and has worked to bring about reforms in the Canadian Forces mental health system.

Today he speaks to audiences around the world on leadership and professional development, and international conflict resolution. He is currently special advisor to a minister at the Canadian International Development Agency and is completing a book on the Rwandan civil war and genocide.

Education experts come together to propose reforms for American education

Federal and state policymakers should encourage school districts to consider shorter summer breaks and longer school years, education experts agreed at an Institute symposium.

“These reforms would help assure that Americans continue to be competitive in an increasingly competitive global economy,” Paul Simon said in announcing recommendations from the two-day conference in Carbondale.

“Long summer breaks mean that the first part of each school year is spent refreshing students on ground that was covered the previous spring. We are losing precious time needed to keep American students moving ahead.”

The working group proposed that the federal government make $900 million available to school districts to cover the reconfiguring or lengthening of the school year. It also recommended that state governments provide matching grants or find other ways to reward schools that shorten their summer break by retooling school calendars.

“Richard W. Riley, former U.S. secretary of education, told symposium attendees, “The continuing call for high standards and real accountability is only going to increase the pressure on school districts to think hard about keeping their schools open later and longer. Given the demand to raise standards, to give teachers more time to plan, and the need to help many more children catch up on their learning, one thing is certain – the time constraints we currently live with have got to give way to something new and different.”

For a copy of the recommendations, contact the Public Policy Institute.
Former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney turned down the offer to become secretary-general of the United Nations. Why? There was still work to do in Canada.

Mulroney came to SIUC at the Institute’s invitation to speak about his experiences as prime minister and what it takes to be a leader in today’s world. Mulroney’s appearance was cosponsored by the SIUC Emeritus Association and Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement.

“The fundamental goal of government is to make a better world, a world that is safe from war, safe for democracy, free from deprivation and free from degradation,” Mulroney said.

For leaders to be effective, he said, they must “stand up, stand out and leave something enduring behind. Look to the next generation, not to the next election.”

For leaders to be effective, they must “transform and reconstruct the political system rather than just operate in it.”

Mulroney took issue with the generation “raised on the absurd notion that leadership should be equated with popularity.”

“Presidents and prime ministers are not chosen to seek popularity,” Mulroney said. “They are chosen to provide leadership. There are times when voters must be told not what they want to hear but what they have to know. Leaders must have vision and they must find the courage to fight for the policies that will give that vision life. Leaders must govern not for easy headlines in 10 days but for better countries in 10 years. And they must be ready to endure the attacks and opprobrium that often accompany profound or controversial change while they await the distant sounds of a verdict that only history and a more reflective nation can render in the fullness to time.”

“The right man or woman in the right place at the right time can transform history,” he said. “The events of Sept. 11 have had a similar effect. Our world is changed perhaps forever because of a handful of terrorists.”

It is a time, Mulroney said, when leaders of the nations of the world need to “pay less attention to daily polls and more attention to inner voices. Take up the standard of what’s right even when it threatens a political future. Idealism and principle must be nurtured and sustained.”
There aren’t enough words in a thesaurus to describe Pete Seeger’s life, his music, and his commitment to political and environmental causes.

Seeger, 82,—musician, singer, songwriter, folklorist, labor and civil rights activist, environmentalist and peace advocate—strolled onto the stage at SIUC’s Shryock Auditorium accompanied by his grandson, 28-year-old Tao Rodriguez-Seeger, for an evening of singing and conversation, courtesy of the Jack and Muriel Hayward Lecture Fund at the Public Policy Institute.

“At an early age I became convinced we needed a different society. I expect to die with that opinion,” Seeger told the audience at the beginning of the standing-room-only concert at SIUC’s Shryock Auditorium accompanied by his grandson, 28-year-old Tao Rodriguez-Seeger, for an evening of singing and conversation, courtesy of the Jack and Muriel Hayward Lecture Fund at the Public Policy Institute.

“Seeger and Rodriguez-Seeger, a musician in his own right, captivated the audience with a selection of songs related to causes they believe in.

“I tell people we have a 50-50 chance that there will be a human race in 100 years,” Seeger said, “so that’s why I call myself an optimist. The thing that gives me hope is that I’m seeing more small organizations than ever before in my lifetime. Every city has people in it saying, ‘I can’t do everything, but I’ve got to do something.’”

His biggest source of inspiration, Seeger said, is children. “I just can’t look in those little faces and say there’s no hope.”

The evening ended with two of Seeger’s most enduring hits. The song, “If I Had A Hammer,” with the melody written by Seeger to the words of a Lee Hays poem (a fellow member of The Weavers), “is a universal pledge to forge love, justice and freedom from discord.”

The final number was Seeger’s own “Turn, Turn, Turn,” with lyrics adapted from the Bible book of Ecclesiastes: “A time to gain, a time to lose; A time to rend, a time to sew; A time to love, a time to hate; A time for peace, I swear it’s not too late.”

Seeger flashed his thousand-watt smile and left his audience smiling when he exited the stage with the words: “You know what musicians can teach the politicians? That not everybody has to sing the melody.”

For the third year, students from high schools and community colleges throughout Illinois accepted the Institute’s invitation to participate in Youth Government Day at SIUC.

On a sunny September morning, nearly 200 students gathered to glean wisdom and advice about government, citizenship and community involvement from public officials as part of Youth Government Day 2001.

“My students and I are sincerely grateful that you devote such time and effort to offer this opportunity to have a dialogue with such significant individuals in politics and public service,” wrote Johnsburg High School teacher Paul Hanrahan after attending his third Youth Government Day.

“Every year I come away from Youth Government Day feeling an ever-deeper appreciation for the role of government in our lives. My students come away from this event equally impressed and appreciative.”

Hanrahan and his students heard from Illinois Lt. Gov. Corinne Wood, who delivered the opening keynote speech.

Wood applauded students for their early commitment to be involved in government and in their communities, and described how she became a public servant.

Also on hand were state senators Kirk Dillard and Debbie Halvorson; Clarence Harmon, former St. Louis mayor and police commissioner; and Karen Hasara, mayor of Springfield and former state senator.
The events of September 11 underscored the importance of a symposium on engaging young people in international affairs.

Two dozen students, faculty members and interested others joined a working group led by Paul Simon and John Anderson to develop recommendations on engaging young people in international affairs.

The event was co-sponsored by the SIUC International Student Council, SIUC Undergraduate Student Government and the SIUC chapter of the United Nations Association.

Anderson, a former 10-term Illinois congressman and 1980 presidential candidate, heads the United World Federalists. He delivered the keynote lecture at the two-day symposium.

The recommendations created by the working group aim “to develop a more concerned and internationally sensitive public.” By following these suggestions, the nation “will reach the general population and particularly younger people, who soon will be shaping the future of our nation and our world.”

Recommendations included:

- Encouraging the development of internationally-sensitive curricula.
- Infusing international affairs, cultural and human rights curricula into other courses.
- Implementing foreign language study in elementary schools.
- Creating a program for teachers for travel/study abroad.
- Encouraging participation in Model United Nations programs.
- Assistance to college students for study and travel abroad—including internships and service learning.

Group recommends ways to get youth internationally involved

Paul Simon and John Anderson

For a copy of the full slate of recommendations, contact the Public Policy Institute.

A major contribution to the Bill and Molly Norwood Fellowship Program came in soon after the article announcing the fund appeared in the Institute’s spring newsletter.

Longtime Norwood friends and admirers Don and Jo Ann Boydston surprised us with a gift of $20,000 to match the original $20,000 gift, donated anonymously, that established the fund in early 2001.

The Norwood Fellowship fund will allow the Institute to host an annual lecture in the area of public policy and diversity in our society.

The Boydstons wrote: “As a member of the Board of Trustees for over a quarter of a century, Bill made tremendous contributions to SIUC and particularly to students. Because of Molly and Bill’s contribution to SIUC in so many ways, we want to match the $20,000 contribution already made to establish the Norwood Fellowship Program. We’re just sorry we didn’t think of it first!”

Don and Jo Ann Boydston

The Boydstons are themselves legendary SIUC figures. Don served as chairman of the health education department for 33 years and also served as director of intercollegiate athletics. Jo Ann is an internationally recognized John Dewey scholar.

Molly and Bill Norwood

Norwood Fund Receives Major Boost
Known for his expertise in international affairs during his years in Washington, Paul Simon has visited more than 100 countries. But last year was his first—and perhaps will be his only—trip to the Republic of Cuba, the island nation just 90 miles south of Florida. It resulted in an historic meeting and hopes for improved relations in the future.

Specific goals for the “People to People Exchange Mission to Cuba,” led by Simon and SIU President James E. Walker were: establishing faculty and student exchange programs; creating a link between Cuba’s health care system and the SIU School of Medicine; and establishing research links in agriculture, biotechnology and aquaculture.

During the trip, Simon, Walker and four others spent six hours meeting with Cuban President Fidel Castro. Now Simon and others are working to change U.S. policies toward Cuba.

A commentary Simon later wrote for the Chicago Tribune:

“I do not expect George W. Bush to suddenly call for a dramatic change in policy, though if he were to do it he would receive praise from leaders in at least 49 states. But politically he could easily make small shifts that would aid both nations. We should be free to travel to Cuba, to learn first-hand the strengths and deficiencies of their government. We should be encouraging academic exchanges. Selling them automobiles and food and medicine certainly won’t harm us, and getting a few Cuban cigars in return would not cause much air pollution. We should let Cuban officials travel here freely. When the president of Cuba’s Parliament wanted to visit the United States to attend a world meeting of parliamentarians, we did not permit him to come, an embarrassing, petty action that made us look ridiculous in the eyes of parliamentarians from every country. The President can and should lead on this issue. If he takes a few small steps toward reality, he will be pleasantly surprised at the response and perhaps eventually recognize Cuba as we do China and North Korea. That might bring about change. Our present course will not.”

Cuban President Fidel Castro meets with Paul Simon in Cuba, with the help of an interpreter.
As part of an innovative initiative by Illinois Gov. George Ryan’s administration, the Institute worked intensely with a wide range of stakeholders over a period of several months to examine ways in which the state could reduce substantially the number of Illinoisans without health coverage.

Director Paul Simon and Associate Director Mike Lawrence joined with scores of people—including members of the Ryan administration, representatives of the insurance, business and medical communities, and advocates for the uninsured—to craft possible strategies for meeting the formidable challenge.

The Assembly on the Uninsured, funded through a federal grant obtained by the Ryan administration, brought the stakeholder representatives together in July and September for discussions that could form the basis for a package of measures that would close the gap in health care coverage. Among the most popular proposals were those to:

- Expand coverage now available to children of the working poor to adults in their families;
- Intensify efforts to enroll young adults and immigrants in both public and private insurance programs for which they are eligible;
- More effectively and aggressively market prevention programs in order to reduce health care costs;
- Develop more insurance products targeted to groups that tend to have the highest rates of uninsured;
- Explore reinsurance programs and mechanisms of underwriting catastrophic coverage; and,
- Provide more incentives for small employers to provide health care coverage.

At both the July and September sessions, Simon said that progress in broadening health care coverage was vital to reducing suffering and anguish. He also said stakeholders and the general public must be willing to compromise and sacrifice to make gains.

Officials of the Ryan administration said they were impressed by the openness and seriousness of the discussions and by the coalescing behind several proposals.

Because of the Assembly’s success, the administration won additional federal funding to allow actuaries and other experts to estimate costs of various recommendations advanced by those attending the Assembly.

One of the reasons the Institute was tapped for the project is its track record of bringing together diverse groups that have conflicting viewpoints and agendas and helping them find common ground.

Also participating in the project were SIUC researchers from the health professions and psychology departments as well as researchers from state agencies and other universities.