

# REVIEW & PREVIEW

*The Newsletter of the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Fall 2002, No. 9.*

## **A Message From Paul**

### **Tackling tough issues, ones that others ignore, both at home and across the globe**

**A**s I write this, we will soon be approaching the first anniversary of a day we will never forget: September 11.

One of the lessons of that day — and I hope we learn our lessons — is that we have to become much more sensitive to the rest of the world. Our insensitivity comes across to others as arrogance. We do not intend to leave that impression, but that is our image in much of the world. They too often view us as a Wild West cowboy who takes off on our own impulse, not after careful study and thought. That too often is their view regardless of which political party controls the White House and our foreign policy.

All of that means that we in the Public Policy Institute also must be sensitive to international problems as we make contributions on everything from dental care for children in southern Illinois to campaign finance reform to the problems of the mentally ill in our prisons.

We plan to continue our interest in international mat-

ters, both because of the concrete recommendations we can make, but also because that is good for our campus here at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

We have brought speakers here to comment on international affairs who have broad experience, among them former Canadian Prime Minister Brian

the lessons to be learned from Rwanda, the only public policy institute in the world to focus on this. We've had discussions on how we can generate more interest by young people in international affairs. We had a symposium on desalination of water, a matter of growing and critical international importance.

We focus on issues others are not addressing. For example, a little-known problem is the discrimination in the United States and Europe facing people we usually call Gypsies, a term they don't like, preferring the word Romani. We have people from western and central Europe coming for this, as well as others, including

former Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

Mike Lawrence, the capable associate director of our Institute, just returned from a visit to Tanzania where he met with journalists on how to deal with the emerging free press in that nation. I have been to Jordan and Syria for the State Department on the Middle East water situation, and to Ghana and



**Paul Simon and David Dinkins, former New York mayor.**

Mulroney; former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker; Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana, a key Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Canadian Gen. Romeo Dallaire, in charge of the United Nations troops in the tragic massacre that took place in Rwanda in Central Africa where 800,000 to one million people were killed.

We had a symposium on

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## Contribution establishes new Institute fellowship on agriculture

Through a major contribution to the Public Policy Institute, Gilbert H. and Jean E. Kroening have established a fellowship that will support an annual program on U.S. and world agriculture, food and environmental issues.

"I am grateful to Gil and Jean Kroening for their leadership in so many good causes and for their support of the Public Policy Institute," said Paul Simon, institute director. "And I am especially pleased that these two alumni of Southern Illinois University Carbondale have made the Institute and their alma mater a priority in their charitable giving."

Gil Kroening, former dean of the SIUC College of Agricultural Sciences, and his wife Jean, a Carbondale realtor, established the fellowship so that the Institute, in partnership with the College of Agricultural Sciences, can



**Jean and Gil Kroening**

bring a distinguished speaker to campus each year to address issues such as world hunger, food safety, population growth and other topics of special concern to the agricultural industry, public policy makers and others.

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Mali in Africa, fledgling democracies, for the Freedom Forum.

I am scheduled to address an economic summit in Nigeria in October. All of these trips are paid by others, though there would be nothing wrong with our Institute doing it — other than we are on a tight budget.

What we are contributing to the international scene is not dramatic, but it is solid. I'm pleased to be a part of it and you who help sustain the Institute are part of it too.

## Anti-smoking project gains state, national recognition

An Institute-launched project aimed at combating smoking among college-age women is winning national and state recognition.

Tapping expertise from several departments and units at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, the Institute led an effort to develop a comprehensive anti-smoking strategy focused on a sector of the population that represents a major growth area for tobacco industries.

The Illinois Department of Public Health, which provided \$900,000 for the initiative, was so impressed by the work of the University contingent that it is providing an additional \$900,000 to fully implement the strategy.

"The award of another \$900,000 during a period when the depart-

ment's budget is strained shows that this initiative has become a major priority for the agency. The department believes the strategy we have developed can be used on university campuses elsewhere in Illinois and beyond," said Mike Lawrence, the Institute's associate director who chaired the project's steering committee during its first year.

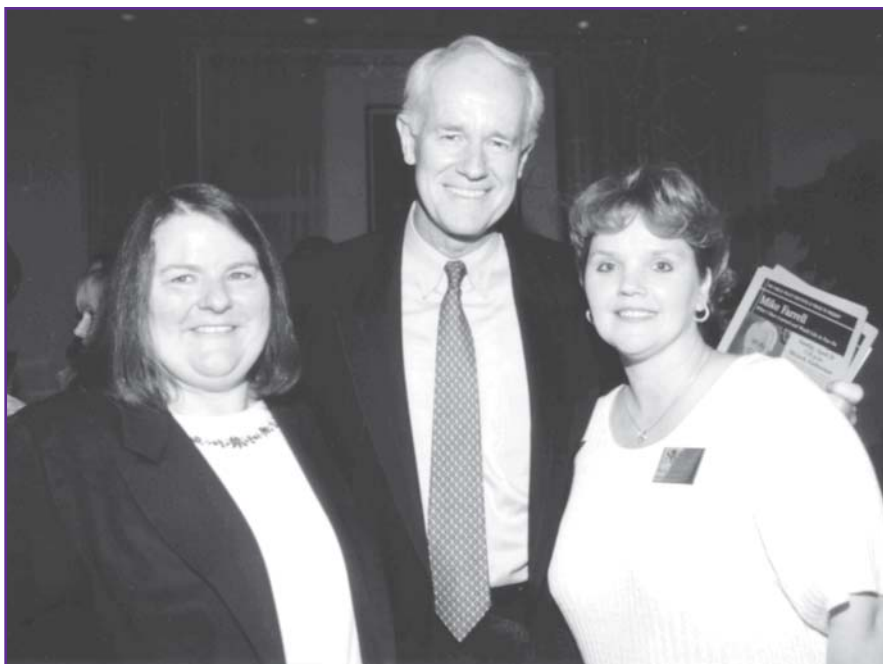
Because of the project's success, Tarachel Benjamin, the Institute staff member who served as coordinator in its first year, was asked to make presentations at national and state conferences.

Based on polling and other research done at SIUC, marketing and advertising experts within the University have created messages that should resonate with college-

age women. The campaign — entitled "Live Free" — includes video, audio and print messages that present facts about the immediate health dangers that smoking poses for college-age women. Student Health Programs also has been enlisted to help students quit smoking and discourage them from taking up the habit.

"Smokers told us they don't want lectures. They want facts. That's what we're giving them," Benjamin said.

John Jackson, visiting professor at the Institute and former interim chancellor of SIUC, will serve during the second year of the project as chair of a committee that will recommend policy changes at the University to assist the smoking cessation effort.



**Actor/activist Mike Farrell**  
with Institute staff Linda Odle (left) and Pam Gwaltney.

## Longtime death penalty opponent Mike Farrell visits SIUC

Mike Farrell, best known for his television roles on *M\*A\*S\*H* and the current series *Providence*, shared his globe-trotting experiences as an ambassador for human rights and his opposition to America's death penalty during an Institute-sponsored lecture in Carbondale.

"I believe the ultimate sanction, as it is referred to in this country, ought to be life in prison without the possibility of parole," Farrell said during his lecture. "It (life in prison) ought to be only for the most heinous crimes. It does all the things they say capital punishment will do without making us stoop to the level of the perpetrator of the crime."

Farrell's travels have taken him all over the world to areas devastated by famine, human rights violations, and war — including Rwanda, where he witnessed piles

of human bones from the atrocities of the 1994 genocide.

"It was an awful sight, something people don't want to see or hear about," he said. "Similar to death row, it is something that needs to be recognized."

At breakfast the next morning, Farrell spoke with students and faculty from the administration of justice, drama, and radio/television programs.

"I was surprised at how relaxed he was, very approachable, very personable," said Cindy Huckabee, a graduate student in administration of justice. "He shared with us some of his personal experiences and it enabled me to see a different point of view and how someone could arrive at that point of view. It showed me the importance of getting beyond the comfort zone of our own communities."

Farrell was accompanied by his wife, actress Shelley Fabares.

## Illinois Commission on Capital Punishment makes recommendations

The Governor's Commission on Capital Punishment, which is co-chaired by Paul Simon, finished a comprehensive review of the administration of the death penalty and outlined 85 specific recommendations in its report to Gov. George Ryan. Less than a month later, Ryan introduced death penalty reform legislation based on the commission's recommendations.

"It is imperative that we move forward on all of the commission's recommendations to fix our broken justice system," Ryan said.

The recommendations include the creation of a statewide panel to review prosecutors' requests for the death penalty; banning death sentences on the mentally retarded; significantly reducing the number of death eligibility factors; videotaping interrogations of homicide suspects; and controlling the use of testimony by jail house informants.

## Youth Government Day set for Sept. 28

The Institute's annual program, Youth Government Day, brings together high school students and public officials from throughout the state.

For details, call 618/453-4046.

## David Satcher headlines conference on mental health and prisons

Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher championed the plight of the mentally ill in his keynote address to the Institute's symposium on mental health and prisons.

"There's a tremendous gap between what we know and what we do, especially in mental health," Satcher said. "We have more people with mental illness in our jails than in our mental hospitals."

Institute Director Paul Simon outlined the problem for the working group: "Roughly one-fourth of those in our prisons and jails need mental health service, and most are not receiving it. Each year we release the equivalent of the population of Seattle, and many of these people are a danger to themselves and a danger to society."

Representatives from the mental health and corrections fields as well



**David Satcher, former U.S. surgeon general.**

as higher education, public policy organizations, and advocacy groups

developed recommendations, including the following:

- Urge governors and state legislatures to add and adequately fund community mental health centers.
- Implement specific training for correctional officers, judges, prosecutors, and public defenders to reduce an unwarranted stigma toward people with psychiatric disabilities.
- Specifically address mental health issues relevant to females (parenting issues, post-traumatic stress disorders, and depression).
- Screen for mental illness, developmental disabilities and learning disabilities as part of the initial processing for all those sentenced to incarceration.

## The lighter side of life in public service

Don't expect former U.S. District Judge and Congressman William L. Hungate to present a stern portrayal of the rigors of serving in public office. Instead, the author of *It Wasn't Funny at the Time* and *Glimpses of Politics* shared humorous memories of his years in public life at an Institute-sponsored event.

Hungate also challenged students to get more involved despite the challenges inherent in creating positive change.

"Real revitalization of our vital institutions is more like taking a



**Benton Mayor Pat Bauer, former federal Judge William Hungate, and Paul Simon.**

bone away from a grumpy dog," he said. "But there's no limit to what

can be accomplished if you don't care who gets the credit for it."

Hungate has worn a number of hats during his lifetime: rifleman and Bronze Star recipient in the U.S. Army's 95<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Harvard-educated attorney at law, congressman and member of the Judiciary Committee that voted to submit articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon, political scientist at the University of Missouri-St.

Louis, and U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.





**From left, former senators David Durenberger, Henry Bellmon, Joseph Tydings, KPBS Moderator Carole Kennedy, Paul Simon, Jim Sasser and Hank Brown.**

## Former senators debate ideas to improve the process

A bipartisan panel of six former United States senators brainstormed ways to improve the legislative process in Washington and to kindle the nation's interest in international affairs in a symposium coordinated by the Institute and San Diego State University.

Former Sens. Hank Brown (R-Col.), Henry Bellmon (R-Okla.), David Durenberger (R-Minn.), Jim Sasser (D-Tenn.), Paul Simon (D-Ill.), and Joseph Tydings (D-Md.) have more than 75 years of Senate service among them.

Their proposals to improve the legislative process included requiring broadcasters to provide free rebuttal time to subjects of negative advertisements, eliminating proxy

voting, separating committee sessions from floor sessions, and moving to a biennial budgeting process.

To spark the nation's interest in international affairs, they encouraged more editorial writers and reporters to travel abroad, recommended overseas trips for new members of the Congress, encouraged congressmen to meet with visiting officials of foreign nations and recommended the delivery of distance learning to other nations and vice versa.

The program was underwritten by Price Charities, which was founded by Sol Price, a longtime friend of Paul Simon.

## Institute helps young black males realize their potential

African-American churches in the Carbondale community are launching programs to provide mentoring for young black males in an innovative project being sponsored by the Institute.

The Institute reached out to the churches as part of its ongoing interest in initiatives that help African-American males realize their full potential.

"In response to our offer to provide funding and other assistance, seven churches have developed programs that we are eager to see unfold over the next year. The churches are taking diverse approaches, and we believe at least some of them could become models for other communities," said Mike Lawrence, the Institute's associate director.

"We appreciate the counsel and support we received from two leading African-Americans at the University — Seymour Bryson, associate chancellor for diversity, and the Rev. Joseph Brown, chair of the Black American Studies Program — in launching this effort."

The Institute is providing about \$25,000 from funds it received from the Ford Foundation to pursue avenues in which the religious community can become involved in addressing poverty and related issues.

The churches will involve African-American students at the University as mentors. The projects range from engaging young males in home improvement projects for widows to a lecture series that will focus on problems African-American males typically encounter in their social development.

### Calendar of Events for Fall 2002

- Sept. 22-23: Symposium on the Romani People with former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark
- Sept. 28: Youth Government Day
- Oct. 28: *Research! America: Medical Research and the Media*
- Nov. 17-18: Symposium on Early Childhood Education
- Nov. 20: George McGovern, What I Have Learned Series
- Dec. 2: Rev. Martin Marty, Hayward Lecture Series
- TBA: Clayton Yeutter, Kroening Lecture Series



**Former New York Mayor David Dinkins (second from left) met with MPA students during his SIUC visit.**

## Former New York mayor delivers Morton-Kenney Lecture

David N. Dinkins, the first African-American to serve as mayor of New York City, encouraged students to consider public service careers in not-for-profit human service agencies and public policy organizations as well as elective and appointed offices.

"I genuinely believe in government that works with people," he told the audience. "I reject the idea that government can't effect change and so should abandon the attempt. And I reject the idea that government should not take responsibility for the poor and the vulnerable."

Dinkins shared poignant stories about the strength and resilience of New Yorkers after September 11 and the challenges the city continues to face economically as thousands of New York's children and adults live in homeless shelters. He hopes there will be a renewed economic emphasis on the poor, including those who work, as New York City continues to regroup after the attacks.

"You shouldn't have to decide between paying the rent or buying food for your family," he said.

Dinkins served as mayor from 1990-1994. He is currently a professor of public affairs at the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. The Morton-Kenney Lecture Series is co-sponsored by the Institute and the SIUC political science department. It is endowed by Jerry Mileur, an SIUC alumnus and retired political science professor at the University of Massachusetts, in honor of two of his SIUC professors, David Kenney and the late Ward Morton.

## Saluki Kids Academy enjoys successful pilot

Two-hundred fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-graders from four of the poorest counties in Illinois came to SIUC this summer for the first Saluki Kids Academy, an innovative, Institute-assisted program aimed at helping low-income children, most of whom are struggling in school.

Activities for the participants ranged from tutoring sessions with literacy experts to swimming lessons. The children toured the campus television studios, artists' workshops, and science and computer labs, received lessons about conflict resolution and building self-esteem, and learned about team sports from SIUC athletic coaches and players.

Keith Hillkirk, dean of the SIUC College of Education and Human Services, and John H. Davis, academy director, hope to expand the program's offerings and increase the number of students eligible to participate.

The Institute helped facilitate funding assistance and also participated in the planning stages for the academy.

## New endowment fund established

Robert Luken, who has already committed to support the Public Policy Institute through a provision in his will, has established a new endowment fund to benefit the Institute's work.

"I am grateful to Robert not only because of his commitment to place the Institute in his will, but also because he so generously established this new fund through a gift of cash," said Paul Simon, Institute director.

After participating in the Institute's program on mental health and prisons, Luken had the idea of creating a fund to help the Institute purchase materials such as books, periodicals and videos in support of similar projects. Luken's only requirement was that SIUC's Morris Library would agree to catalog the items thereby making them available to the public once the Institute has completed its work on the program.

## Early foreign language studies prove beneficial

Adding foreign language studies to elementary-level curriculums could bolster our nation's economy, help maintain our national security, and enrich our cultural involvement, an Institute-sponsored symposium found.

"September 11 should teach us one important lesson: the United States must become more sensitive to the rest of the world," Paul Simon said. "One way of building greater understanding is through foreign language education, where we learn to communicate more effectively with others, and also come to appreciate other cultures."

Joined by keynote speaker Richard Brecht, the director of the National Foreign Language Center, the working group included elementary- to college-level educators and national policy experts. The group examined the obstacles to introduc-



**Members of the working group discuss foreign language recommendations.**

ing foreign languages to the elementary grades and how best to move the nation forward on accepting and implementing the idea.

The proposals urged Congress and the Bush Administration to create a one-year commission to work with the Defense and Education departments to identify future needs for foreign language expertise; encouraged universities with

the help of a modest federal subsidy to create two- or three-week summer programs with language immersion for teachers; asked the National PTA to make foreign languages a one-year emphasis; and requested that an office be established within the Department of Education to be responsible for foreign languages at the K-12 level.

## Fulbright Institute enjoys ninth year at SIUC

Representatives from 18 countries immersed themselves in American government, politics, and culture for the six-week Fulbright American Studies Institute, directed by SIUC political science professors John Foster and Barbara Brown and co-directed by Public Policy Institute visiting professor John Jackson.

Among the lectures given by University faculty and governmental practitioners, participants enjoyed dinner and a discussion about American government and politics with Paul Simon. Mike Lawrence talked with the group about media and politics. Jackson spoke about American political

parties and U.S. presidents; he also served as moderator for many of the group's discussion periods.

World events this year have given the sessions a unique atmosphere.

"Everything has a different cast to it because of the events of September 11th," Jackson said. "Issues of religion and politics are more prominent this year. We've stressed it more. We have a person from Pakistan, a person from the West Bank, Palestine — they are interested in making their case."

The Fulbright Institute is competitively awarded through

funding by the U.S. State Department. This is the ninth year that SIUC's political science department has administered the program.

Participants came from Argentina, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Latvia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Slovak Republic, Taiwan, and the West Bank.

Beyond Carbondale, they traveled to government offices in Springfield and Chicago, toured the Saturn auto plant in Spring Hill, Tenn., and also had meetings in Washington, D.C.

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Institute development officer

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80	8.9%	85/80	8.1%

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