SCHOLARSHIPS

Mike Lawrence Scholarship
The Mike Lawrence Scholarship assists students who are involved with the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute as a student worker or volunteer. There is a preference for African-American students who are involved in the Institute’s Student Ambassador Program.

Mike Lawrence partnered with Paul Simon to launch the Institute in 1997, serving as its first associate director until 2003. Upon Sen. Simon’s death, Mike was named director and served in that role until his retirement in 2008. He previously served 10 years as press secretary and senior adviser to Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar, a Republican. Mike began his career as a journalist and was widely respected as a state house reporter covering politics for Lee Enterprises and the Chicago Sun Times for two decades.

Eligibility:
Recipients must be an enrolled SIUC student in good standing and active in a substantial number of Institute programs, events and initiatives. The scholarship will go to those who have demonstrated positive leadership qualities at the Institute and who plan to continue their studies at SIUC unless they are graduating.

Details:
Scholarship award amounts are determined each year based on the revenue from the Mike Lawrence Scholarship Endowment and the number of candidates selected as finalists.

Celia M. Howard Fellowship
In partnership with the Celia M. Howard Fellowship Fund, the Simon Institute provides funding for a fellowship to benefit a student interested in a career in government, public policy and public service. Ideally, the fellowship will be based in Carbondale with the Simon Institute, but options are available for external placement for those with specific interest and ability to serve in Springfield with a Constitutional office, state agency or state legislator.

Celia M. Howard (1876-1950) received a scholarship to Harvard Law School, but was denied the opportunity to attend the all-male university because she was a woman. She graduated from Chicago’s John Marshall Law School, had a well-respected career as an attorney, and is believed to be the first woman to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. She was the national leader of the Illinois Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Club, which established the Celia M. Howard Fellowship Fund in her honor in 1949.

Eligibility:
Doctoral-level students in the social sciences or related field who have completed their coursework.

Details:
The student will be hired as a half-time graduate research assistant at the pay rate and associated benefits—including a tuition waiver—as set by the Graduate School.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Simon Institute Ambassadors
Select students interested in volunteering their time to the Institute comprise the Institute’s Ambassador program.

Institute Ambassadors assist the staff in outreach efforts to the campus and community, provide support for events and are invited to interact with a number of guest speakers in small settings.

If you are interested in becoming an Institute Ambassador, please contact Carol Greenlee at (618) 453-4078 or cgreenlee@siu.edu.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
For more information about any of these opportunities, please contact the Institute at 618.453.4009 to make an appointment with a member of our staff or visit www.paulsimoninstitute.org (then go to the “Students” tab) to get additional details on any of these programs.
Dear Students,

Paul Simon, who founded this Institute, had many options when he chose to retire from the U.S. Senate in 1997. But nothing interested him more than coming to work at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where he could continue his work on issues important to him throughout his 40-year political career and could be working with students. He was invigorated by the interactions with young people and teaching students the lessons he learned throughout a respected career in journalism and government. Paul was eager to help students find opportunities to grow as individuals and as professionals.

We provide numerous opportunities for students to gain real-world experience in the public policy arena through internships and fellowships. We also have a scholarship for students involved at the Institute, and we encourage students to come be a part of our work through the Student Ambassador program.

Come visit the Institute to learn more about us and go online at paulsimoninstitute.org to see what we’re all about.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Paul Simon

Civilian Assistant Director

Institute visiting professor and Demuzio intern program coordinator John Jackson (far left) and Institute director David Yepsen (far right) pose with some of the 2009-2010 Demuzio Interns.

INTERNSHIPS

The Alexander Lane Internship

The Alexander Lane Internship sends at least one student each spring to work with a minority member of the Illinois General Assembly in Springfield during the legislative session. This provides the student with challenging and rewarding assignments, such as reviewing and analyzing legislation; researching issues for proposed legislation; attending policy briefings, press conferences and committee hearings; and interacting with and responding to constituents and the public. The internship honors a trailblazing alumnus, Alexander Lane, who was the first African American male student at SIU Carbondale. Lane was born a slave in pre-Civil War Mississippi, but used his educational opportunity to become an educator, physician and state representative. Lane (R-Chicago) served in the House of Representatives from 1937-1911, having been just the ninth African American member of the Illinois General Assembly.

Eligibility: Students from all academic backgrounds who have reached junior status (completed at least 56 hours of course work) are invited to apply.

Details: Interns are required to work either 15 or 20 hours per week and receive a monthly salary plus a travel stipend.

The Politics & Journalism Semester

The Politics & Journalism Semester provides students with a stipend to help cover housing and travel expenses and other needs.

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Details: The internship will require the student to live in Springfield during the spring semester. Maintaining student status during the internship is required. Interns will receive a stipend to help cover housing and travel expenses and other needs.

The Jerome G. Milleur Internship

The Jerome Milleur Internship will send at least one student each spring to Springfield to gain experience working in state government. Priority will be given to students majoring in political science, history and journalism. Placement will focus on working with members of the state legislature, statewide offices or state executive agencies.

Jerry Milleur is a southern Illinois native who holds two degrees from SIU Carbondale. A lifelong educator with a passion for teaching, politics and baseball, Jerry retired as chairman of the political science department at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He also owned a minor league baseball team for many years. Jerry serves on the board of directors for the Simon Institute and is an author of books on the St. Louis Cardinals. He also endowed the Morton-Kenney Public Affairs Lecture Series at SIUC.

Eligibility: Students from all academic backgrounds who have reached junior status (completed at least 56 hours of course work) are invited to apply.

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The Vince Demuzio Governmental Internship

The Vince Demuzio Governmental Internship provides students with the opportunity to gain valuable experience working in state agencies and other governmental offices, primarily in southern Illinois, while continuing to take a full slate of classes at SIU Carbondale. The internship strives to make public policy an attractive career path and to better teach students how government works. There is a minimum GPA requirement.

The internship honors former state Senator Vince Demuzio (D-Carlinville), who died in 2004. He was the Senate Majority Leader and the longest serving member of that body when he died. He had also served as chairman of the state Democratic Party. He was respected as an advocate for education and young people.

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Social Work Internship

Social work students can develop their macro method skills in areas of policy development, community education, legislative advocacy and grant writing. Interns will gain experience in event organization and communication skills to engage with various local, state and national officials. Interns can also collaborate with local non-profit organizations and represent the social work profession at an assortment of events hosted by the Institute.

Eligibility: Any student majoring in social work can apply. Students fulfilling the requirement for their baccalaureate field practicum may have the option of splitting their hours with another organization.

Details: Internship details—including the number of hours worked per week—are handled on a case-by-case basis in coordination with the School of Social Work.

EMPLOYMENT

Student Employment

Each semester the Simon Institute provides a limited number of traditional employment opportunities for students to work at the office’s reception desk and at times has undergraduate or graduate assistantships available. Students in these paid positions gain hands-on experience in a professional office environment while working on a variety of topics, special initiatives and research for the Institute.

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