

# The Simon Times

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PAUL SIMON PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE



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## Ban Ki-moon: “Look beyond the United States.”

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon spoke December 21 at SIU Carbondale

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visited SIU Carbondale on Dec. 21, 2016 as his “last of the last” public appearance before he left office on Jan. 1, 2017. He delivered an address to more than 1,500 gathered students and community members and his speech was live-streamed to thousands more remote viewers. Ban’s words were particularly focused on the concept of global citizenship.

“I am very glad to be in a place where global citizenship is a part of the university identity and diversity is in the campus DNA,” Ban said. Earlier that week, SIU became a member of the UN Academic Impact initiative,

a program open to higher education institutions committed to the United Nations’ goals and mandates.

Ban, who served as the eighth Secretary-General for a decade, encouraged students to involve themselves with international affairs and issues.

“Look beyond the United States,” Ban told students in the audience. “National boundaries have no meaning in this transformative global time. We are living in a very, very small world. Forget about where you come from because you are a member of a family — one world, one family.”

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All content is provided by institute staff and University Communications and Marketing.

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Through our YouTube page, you can watch our events via livestream and check out archived event and conference videos.

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So much has happened lately in our world, nation and state.

I often meet friends who ask, "What would your dad think of this?" It comes up when

discussing strained relations between the U.S. and other countries, missing ethical standards in Washington, or the struggle to have something as basic as a budget for Illinois.

While I don't know what Dad would say about our current crises, I do know how Dad responded to the challenges he faced: action.

When there was corruption in Madison County, Dad exposed it in his newspaper, the *Troy Tribune*. He exposed corruption in the Illinois statehouse as well, earning sneers from his colleagues. In the 1988 presidential campaign Dad supported U.S. Sen. Dale Bumpers, but when Bumpers decided not to run, Dad jumped into the campaign himself.

Campaigns were a part of our family

life. Martin and I grew up at parades, county fairs and Democratic dinners. And when Perry and I got married almost 30 years ago, our honeymoon was, naturally, that 1988 presidential primary.

When Dad left the U.S. Senate, he didn't slow down and his "retirement" was still full of action. You might remember that this institute was founded to be, in Dad's words, "not a think tank, but a do tank."

In the pages of this newsletter you will see some of what the institute has been doing. I'm particularly proud of the work that the institute does to connect students with opportunities to be engaged in government; whether it's the intense Youth Government Day or the semester-long internships, the focus is on action.

Looking ahead, it's clear we will face even more challenges on the global, national and state levels. With the help of the institute, I think we can ask ourselves not just what would someone think about this, but what can we do.

Thanks for what you have done to keep the institute a center for action. Let's keep it going strong.

*-Sheila Simon*

**STAFF NEWS: COMINGS AND GOINGS**

In 2016-2017, we've said goodbyes to three staff members and welcomed our interim director.

David Yepsen retired on October 31, 2016, and the search for his permanent replacement is underway. The institute will be scheduling open forums for candidates during the fall semester.

During the transition, Jak Tichenor was named interim director on Nov. 1, 2016. Tichenor is a veteran broadcast journalist who spent the majority of his



*Photo Credit: Daily Egyptian Morgan Timms*



reporting career at WSIU Public Television at SIU Carbondale. He has taught and mentored over a generation of students in the Department of Radio, Television, and Digital Media.

In November 2016, our project coordinator Shiloh Deitz vacated her position to move back to the west coast to be near family.

In June 2017, Delio Calzolari vacated the associate director position to become the Director of Legislative and Governmental Affairs at the Forest Preserve of Cook County.



# STUDENT spotlight

CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS SINCE 1997

## 2017-2018 CELIA M. HOWARD FELLOWS NAMED

Southern Illinois University's 2017-2018 Celia Howard Fellows are Kara Lawrence and Lauren Stoelzle. The fellows will assist in the planning and execution of the institute's multiple civic education, community affairs, outreach and public policy programs. In addition to their duties, the students will also select a research topic of interest that draws upon their work with the institute and the Illinois General Assembly.

Kara Lawrence is currently a graduate student at SIU Carbondale completing her master's degree in public administration. She completed her undergraduate studies in psychology and completed her first master's degree in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).



*Kara Lawrence*

Lawrence then became an exchange teacher to help establish a new English program at Yunlin University of Science and Technology in Taiwan. She has had an extensive career as an educator, ESL instructor, English lecturer, and teacher's assistant/tutor. In her work at the institute, Lawrence plans to conduct research on water policy at the local, state and federal levels.

Lauren Stoelzle completed her undergraduate studies at SIU Carbondale with a major in photography and a minor in art. Following graduation, she went on to work on a master's degree in mass communication and media arts.



*Lauren Stoelzle*

Stoelzle has completed several short films, mostly in the documentary and short unconventional fiction/experimental

genre.

While conducting research for her thesis, Stoelzle has developed an interest in presenting a clear picture of Midwestern culture and society. During her fellowship, Stoelzle will focus on public policy surrounding family and children issues in Southern Illinois.

"I firmly believe that mentorship is immensely valuable to our fellows. It aids leadership development, and provides opportunities for encouragement, guidance and institutional support for the program participants," said Professor Linda Baker.

The fellowship is made possible through the generosity of the Celia M. Howard Fellowship Fund and the Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs. The graduate assistantship comes with a stipend and a tuition waiver.

Apply for the 2018-2019 fellowship at:  
[www.paulsimoninstitute.siu.edu/celiahoward](http://www.paulsimoninstitute.siu.edu/celiahoward)

## INSTITUTE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM REVITALIZED

In January 2017, three undergraduate students — Kelli Tilford, Gabby Robles and Joe Locher — formalized the Institute Ambassador program as a Registered Student Organization (RSO) at SIU Carbondale.

More than a dozen undergraduate students took advantage of the Institute Ambassador Program in spring 2017 by volunteering at events and assisting with special initiatives. The underlying characteristic of those involved with this program is that of a student who has an interest in learning more about public policy, government, politics and

civic participation.

Student ambassadors have the opportunity to enhance their educational experience, their understanding of public policy issues, strengthen public relations and communications skills and network with distinguished guests.

"It has been a fantastic experience to be a part of the revitalization of the ambassador program and I'm looking forward to the program giving even more students opportunities," said Ambassador President Kelli Tilford.

Institute Ambassadors added a networking component to their monthly meetings

as well. Student engagement is a hallmark of the institute and the institute is proud to continue working with SIU students.

The institute continues to cultivate strong relationships with university students to provide them with outstanding learning opportunities. The Institute Ambassadors are busy planning events and growing the membership of the group. Institute Assistant Director Carol Greenlee is the advisor for the ambassadors.

Check out the Ambassador Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/psppiambassadors](https://www.facebook.com/psppiambassadors)

## THE ALEXANDER LANE INTERN: TRAVIS WASHINGTON

The Alexander Lane Internship was created to honor the legacy of Alexander Lane, SIU's first African-American male graduate.

The internship gives students an opportunity to work on public policy issues within state government, working directly with public officials and their staff.

The institute's 2017 Alexander Lane intern is Travis Washington. Washington, an undergraduate senior at SIU Carbondale, spent the spring semester working on public policy issues up close as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives Democratic issues staff, assisting legislators with constituent communications,



legislative research, and other tasks as assigned by House staff. While there, Washington was assigned to provide legislative analysis for resolutions and bills before the General Assembly, and to work closely with several legislators. He took a particular interest in several policy issues, which served him well as he prepared research for his final internship research project.

For his final paper, Washington looked at the state's budgetary impasse and offered his thoughts on potential solutions. He also noted the obstacles to any potential solution, both political and procedural. His work in the legislature gave him an understanding of the very unique circumstances in which the state found itself. Washington developed a growing interest in public service as he conducted research.

## THE GENE CALLAHAN INTERN: JACOB SELSOR

The institute's 2017 Gene Callahan intern is Jacob Selsor.

Selsor, an undergraduate senior at SIU Carbondale, spent the spring 2017 semester working on public policy issues directly as a member of the Illinois House



of Representatives Republican research staff, assisting legislators with constituent communications, legislative research, and other tasks as assigned by his House supervisor.

In addition to his internship duties,

Selsor was also able to study the impact of political divisions and the budget impasse on other legislative proposals, including those he was concerned about. For his final paper, Selsor looked at the issue of marijuana legalization and its potential benefits to Illinois' economy.

SIU distinguished alumnus Jerry Mileur renamed The Gene Callahan Internship to honor Gene Callahan, a longtime Southern Illinois resident, Armed Forces veteran, journalist, public official and engaged citizen. Both Callahan and Mileur have served on the institute's Board of Counselors.

Selsor will complete his senior year on campus and he plans to attend law school upon graduation.



## JOE LOCHER

The Illinois Lieutenant Governor's Office has selected SIU Carbondale student Joe Locher (pictured right) as its 2017 summer intern. In his internship, he served in the office of Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti (pictured left), who was elected in November 2014.

The Springfield native is an undergraduate with expected graduation of 2019. Locher maintains a 4.0 GPA with dual majors in political science and German and a minor in history.



## KELLI TILFORD

Kelli Tilford was selected as a 2017 summer intern for U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Illinois) at his Carbondale office. The opportunity allowed her to understand the importance of district offices and how they benefit constituents.

The office provides a vital resource for many in the community, and allows citizens to express their feelings and beliefs to Sen. Durbin. This internship allowed Tilford to assist with casework, talk to constituents about their concerns, and understand the day-to-day workings of a local legislative/congressional office.

Springfield internships eligibility: SIU students from all academic backgrounds who have reached junior status (completed at least 56 hours of course work). 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.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT APPLYING FOR OUR INTERNSHIPS, VISIT [PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/STUDENT-OPPORTUNITIES](http://PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/STUDENT-OPPORTUNITIES).

## KIMBERLY PALERMO, 2016 CELIA M. HOWARD FELLOW AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESEARCHER



Check out the Simon Poll™ Release on Human Trafficking: <http://bit.ly/simon-poll-trafficking>

This past year, Kimberly Palermo, former Celia M. Howard Fellow at the institute, conducted groundbreaking research to address the issue of human trafficking throughout Illinois. Human trafficking is the act of recruiting, harboring, moving or obtaining a person, by force, fraud or coercion, for the purposes of involuntary servitude, debt bondage or sexual exploitation, as defined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

Palermo's research focused on sexual exploitation as a modern form of slavery. Her goal was to assess the public's viewpoint and raise awareness of this global issue that affects thousands of children, women and men. Palermo was able to use her research to further educate individuals and shed light on the need to protect survivors from victimization and ease the repatriation of victims.

In what is believed to be the first statewide inquiry on human trafficking in the nation, the spring 2017 Simon Poll™ included questions developed by Palermo to gather data regarding the general public's awareness and attitudes toward mandated training and prosecution. The poll found that more than half of Illinoisans were unaware human trafficking affects their state, but a strong majority reported there should be mandated training for law enforcement.

"Kimberly's research has brought a focus on this important issue to the institute. It allows us to both assess and raise citizen awareness and concern, as well as contrib-

ute to the body of information on the topic that will be available to public policymakers and service providers," said Professor Linda Baker, who supervised Palermo's work on the topic.

"Illinois is a leading state combating this epidemic in the country and we are extremely pleased that Kimberly's research and expertise are helping inform the work of the governor's statewide Human Trafficking Taskforce and Illinois Department of Children and Family Services develop new strategies to fight the problem and help victims," said Interim Director Jak Tichenor. Palermo is assisting the task force as it holds hearings throughout the state next year. The task force is comprised of appointed members of the legislature, a representative of the Chicago Regional Human Trafficking Task Force, and the director of the Illinois State Police.

"Through perseverance, the institute has continually helped make my research a possibility and never turned a blind eye towards this issue. I am grateful for my time at the institute and looking forward to continuing my research as an institute visiting scholar," said Palermo.

Palermo was also indispensable at the institute, taking the lead to assist on various community service and civic education projects supported by the institute.

After graduating with a master's degree in social work, she accepted an internship in Springfield with the Illinois Department of Health Care and Family Services in the Bureau of Behavioral Health.

## YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY

More than 100 high school students from across Illinois recently participated in the institute's annual 2017 Youth Government Day in Springfield, Ill.

At the program, attendees heard presentations and participated in breakout sessions designed to give them insight into how state government functions, as well as interest them in public service for the future. With the well-publicized budgetary and fiscal challenges facing Illinois policymakers and citizens, developing this interest in civic participation is arguably more important than ever.

The students were particularly impressed with the keynote address from Mississippi State Rep. Jeramey D. Anderson (D-Jackson), who became the nation's youngest African-



Rep. Anderson and Rep. Avery Bourne

American state legislator when he was elected in 2013 at age 21.

Rep. Anderson related his personal story, what drove his interest in public service, and the importance for young people to set goals and work hard. Illinois State Rep. Avery Bourne (R-Raymond) took part in her second YGD by holding breakout sessions with students about what it's like to be a young elected member of the Illinois General Assembly. The interaction with young professionals helped convey the message to participants just how within reach these goals really are.

The institute began these regular programs and workshops in response to a charge from its founder, Sen. Paul Simon. "Sen. Simon challenged us to take our civic education programming not only to the university's students, but to our community's citizens and young people, and we take his charge seriously," noted Professor Linda Baker. "Giving young people the tools to constructively engage with government and positively impact their communities for the better benefits us all."

Watch highlights of this year's YGD at: <http://bit.ly/instituteygd2017>

## THE 1ST LATINO LEGISLATIVE CIVIC EDUCATION DAY IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



Watch highlights of this trip at:  
<http://bit.ly/latino2017trip>



On April 4, 2017, the institute sponsored the first Latino Legislative Civic Education Day in Springfield, Illinois.

The event offered 18 students from SIU Carbondale the opportunity to visit the Illinois Statehouse to meet House and Senate lawmakers, including members of the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus and representatives from various branches of state government to learn about internship opportunities at the Capitol.

"It was a terrific experience for our students," said Vincent Sadowski, a social work graduate intern at the institute who helped organize the day's activities. "Seeing first-hand the way the students were inspired by the visit made all the hard work that went into planning the event very worthwhile. The feedback we received from our group was overwhelmingly positive and after spending many hours at the Capitol, they still wanted to stay even longer to meet with lawmakers."

Students had the opportunity for question and answer sessions with Sen. Iris Martinez (D-Chicago, Majority Caucus Whip), Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-Chicago, Legislative Latino Caucus Co-Chair), Sen. Omar Aquino (D-Chicago), Rep. Elizabeth Hernandez (D-Cicero), Rep. Cynthia Soto (D-Chicago), Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia (D-Aurora), Rep. Will Davis (D-Homewood), Rep. Fred Crespo (D-Hoffman Estates, Legislative Latino Caucus Co-Chair), Rep. Art Turner, Jr. (D-Chicago) and Rep. Sara Wojcicki Jimenez (D-Leland Grove).

The students also met with and were publicly recognized from the Senate floor by Sen. Paul Schimpf (R-Waterloo) and by Rep. Terri Bryant (R-Murphysboro) from the House floor.

"Visiting Springfield for the first time and having as much access as we did completely took me by surprise," said Oneida Vargas, a sophomore majoring in political science with a pre-law focus from Chicago. "Walking through the building and sitting in both the Senate and House chambers allowed me to picture myself working there—it gave me a different perspective on public policy and being in Springfield."

Karla Rosado, a junior majoring in international studies from Pleasant View, Tennessee, agreed: "The discussions we had with lawmakers were very inspiring to me because a lot of them were just normal citizens who decided they wanted to make a difference for their communities through public service. I was also very encouraged by hearing Spanish spoken in the Capitol. It really affected me because that is a part of my culture that I do not often get to use."

Students learned about what the life of an intern at the Capitol entails and how beneficial the experience can be from a panel comprised of current and past interns from the institute, including Travis Washington, Ryan Gougis, and lobbyist Gabe Lopez, who has years of experience working with interns at the capitol.

Students also gleaned insights into internship and career possibilities in

Springfield through the panel discussion "Governmental Action and the Impact on Diverse Communities." Panelists included Nelson Aguiar, associate director for Adult Education and Family Literacy, Illinois Community College Board; Nicola Cortez, legislative liaison, Illinois Department of Transportation; Derek Cantu, lieutenant governor policy analyst, former Dunn fellow; Hector Villagrana, legislative liaison, Health and Family Services. The group also met with former institute student employees and interns in a gathering hosted by Steve Brown, SIU alumnus and press secretary to House Speaker Michael J. Madigan.

The event was hosted by the institute and the Latino/Hispanic Resources Council at SIU to generate interest in the institute's Latino Heritage Legislative Internship Program.

**The Latino Heritage Legislative Internship provides a student the PAID opportunity to work with the Illinois General Assembly during the spring legislative session.**

**Students gain valuable experience throughout the internship, including:**

- Analyzing and reviewing proposed legislation.
- Looking at critical community issues.
- Developing networking skills.

**All majors may apply. Applicants must have junior status (56+ hours) at the time of the internship, plus live in Springfield during the internship.**

**APPLY AT:  
[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/STUDENT-OPPORTUNITIES](http://PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/STUDENT-OPPORTUNITIES)**

This year, two second-year law students, Christopher (C.J.) DeBoer and Travis Fleming, participated in the Law, Policy and Politics Externship Program. C.J. and Travis focused their research on the constitutionality of Illinois' budget crisis by comparing the Illinois Constitution's Finance Article (which relates to the state budget process) to other states concluding that Illinois' constitution falls short of others because it only outlines processes and lacks what they termed substantive rules.

DeBoer is from Kingsland, Ga. and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Georgia Southern University. This past summer, he was a legal intern at Judicial Watch in Washington, D.C. After graduation in May 2018, he intends to take the Uniform



Bar Examination, a bar exam that is used by 25 states and the District of Columbia, to practice in D.C. after graduation. This upcoming year he will also be the president of the SIU Student Bar Association.

Fleming is from Marion, Ill. and graduated from SIU Carbondale in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in philosophy and classics. This past summer he clerked at Armstrong and Green in Marion. After graduation in May 2018, he plans to take the Illinois Bar Exam.



Externs work with the institute staff, faculty and graduate students in other disciplines and can earn law school credit toward graduation for successful completion. Externs in the past have presented at institute-sponsored events, published in The Simon Review, and worked with people at partner organizations off-campus. Externs learn the dynamics at play among law, policy and the influence of politics and interest groups.

## 2016 YOUTH LEADERSHIP WEEKEND



Southwestern Illinois area young people got some helpful insight and advice on their future education and possible career paths as well as valuable information on how to succeed as they grow up from some of our community's and state's success stories.

Taking its lead from its founder, the late U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, the institute hosted another successful installment of its annual Youth Leadership Weekend. The weekend was launched 15 years ago as a way to present promising youth with mentoring, educational workshops and the networking opportunities they need to help them unlock their full potential. The focus of the program is on enhancing leadership qualities of young African-American men through reinforcing positive qualities, building skills and increasing career awareness education.

The event brings together some of southwestern Illinois' most promising young adults from homes where they may be the first generation to attend postsecondary education, and pairs them with mentors from both similar and varying backgrounds. During the weekend-long program, the youth hear from speakers on topics as diverse as positive study habits to personal financial management.

"Our founder, Sen. Paul Simon, was very concerned about encouraging young people and providing them with opportunities for personal and professional development," noted Professor Linda Baker, an institute professor in the area of public and

healthcare policy. "The Youth Leadership Weekend is one of our offerings aimed at making Sen. Simon's vision a reality."

The young men who attend are involved in local mentoring programs and selected to participate in the leadership event. "They are important in building and preparing the next generation of African-American male leaders," Baker said. "The Youth Leadership Weekend continues to be an amazing and unique opportunity to help build the next generation of leaders from the Metro-East area," she said. "As Paul and each director after him has echoed, this signature program is one of the most important things the institute is involved in."

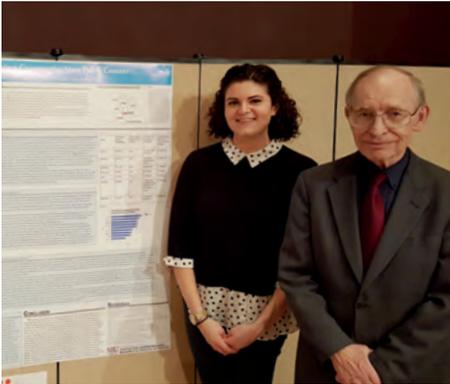
The event counts on the indispensable support of many community partners, including local churches, Panhellenic organizations and service organizations.

Cedric Mitchell of the Metro-East chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, has been a supporter of the weekend since its inception. Mitchell has been a program mentor, chaperone, guest speaker and more. Encouraging positive youth development has become a family tradition within the Mitchell family. Both of his sons have participated in the program and later returned to volunteer their time and participation in subsequent Leadership Weekend events and programming, both during their time as SIU Carbondale students and after graduation.

Learn more at:  
<http://bit.ly/psppi-youth-leadership-weekend>

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER MARNIE LEONARD INTERNS WITH U.S. CONGRESSMAN BOST

## SALUKIFUNDER RSO FUNDRAISING



*Marnie Leonard with Dr. John Jackson*

During the 2016/2017 academic year the institute was involved in research with the undergraduate assistantship program. Marnie Leonard is a senior at SIU and a political science major from Tuscola, Ill. Leonard was also a reporter for the Daily Egyptian and in that capacity wrote numerous articles on what the state's budget crisis was doing to the university.

Marnie's research project was focused on Gov. Bruce Rauner's "turnaround agenda," which consists of a series of public policy changes he advocates for Illinois. According to the governor, these policy changes are necessary to get the state's finances in order and to attract more business and industry to the state.

Leonard examined seven major components of the "turnaround agenda" and compared the governor's policy proposals to the policies in force in other states. She focused on term limits, workers' compensation reform, education funding reform, a property tax freeze, pension reform, redistricting reform, and creating local "employee empowerment zones."

Her major focus was placed on Illinois' contiguous neighboring states in the Midwest. She asked what the neighboring states did and how Illinois policy compared to the other states.

"This study is an excellent demonstration of what public policy analysis in a comparative state context should look like. It was very timely and extremely relevant



*Marnie Leonard with Congressman Mike Bost*

to the ongoing debate in Springfield," said Professor John Jackson, who supervised the study. The study became The Simon Review Paper #50 in the series which Jackson edits. It is available on the institute's website and through Morris Library's OpenSIU service.

"Through these comparisons, readers can make comparisons with the competitor states as to whether these states are more business-friendly, how accurate the governor's claims are, and what Illinois could potentially look like under the laws of its surrounding states," Leonard wrote in the paper's abstract.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity the undergraduate assistantship program gave to me to conduct research through the institute," Leonard said. "It has been an incredible learning experience, both for my future career in politics and as a citizen of Illinois."

Leonard was selected as a 2017 summer intern for U.S. Congressman Mike Bost (R-Illinois) in Washington, D.C. During the spring 2018 semester, she will be the only intern for the U.S. Consulate General in Barcelona, Spain, where she will report on political and economic issues. She also received the Illinois State Society scholarship to help her continue with her degree.

**Read Paper #50 by Marnie Leonard, online at OpenSIU:**

[http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/ppi\\_papers/50/](http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/ppi_papers/50/)

The institute worked with students in the SIU chapters of the Model United Nations and National Association of Black Journalists to raise money with a new crowd funding platform, SalukiFunder.

Crowdfunding is the practice of raising a small amount of money from a large number of donors, usually online and in a short timeframe. Students, researchers, faculty and others have many projects in need of funding. Through SalukiFunder, these groups are able to get much-needed financial assistance, and donors are able to make smaller, more manageable gifts.

SalukiFunder is made available by the SIU Foundation. Each group requires unit sponsorship for projects, which is where the institute was pleased to be able to step in. The institute worked with the students on the webpage, helped market the projects and the webpage, and provided additional support.

The institute teamed up with a team of 11 students in the Model United Nations chapter at SIU to raise money for travel, lodging and conference fees to compete in St. Louis on Feb. 22-25, 2017. The Model United Nations creates realistic simulations of the United Nations. The Model United Nations chapter at SIU Carbondale aims to develop current students interested in the field of international relations into future global leaders.

The institute also worked with the SIU chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists to send them to the the National Association of Black Journalists' 42nd Annual NABJ Convention and Career Fair from August 9-13, 2017. The convention targets journalists, media executives, public relations professionals, and students. The convention has hosted many greats, from CNN journalists to President Obama. The event holds seminars for many interests, including sports reporting, television news, print news and more.

For more information on SalukiFunder and current projects, visit the website at [SalukiFunder.siu.edu](http://SalukiFunder.siu.edu)

## VINCENT SADOWSKI, 2016-2017 INSTITUTE SOCIAL WORK INTERN

Vincent Sadowski was the institute's 2016-2017 graduate social work intern.



He was a graduate student in the master's program, receiving induction into the Phi Alpha Honor Society for Social Work. Sadowski holds a dual bachelor's degree in psychology and community studies from the University of Maine. Since beginning his graduate studies at SIU, he has interned with Lutheran Child and Family Services of Mount Vernon, Illinois in addition to his internship at the institute.

Sadowski has also performed extensive work in the field, having served in several

positions involved in the delivery of care for the foster care program. He worked for Centerstone, formerly named The H Group in Carbondale's Transitional Living Program and went on to work in case management for Lutheran Child and Family Services. As a graduate assistant at Project 12-Ways, he maintained service delivery data for families within the DCFS system.

While interning with the institute, Sadowski worked with staff, state agency policy makers, and legislators to research the state's child welfare services system. His IT expertise complemented his research, as he was able to identify the need for a software application to assist state agencies in modernizing their service delivery and streamline state caseworkers reporting and information-sharing require-

ments. The detailed proposal will guide DCFS staff in contracting for the development of this software, ensuring that the final product provides all the functionality state employees require to properly track, care for and supervise the many children under the department's care.

After receiving his master's degree, Vincent accepted a position with Caritas Family Solutions in Mt. Vernon, where he will be working as the Lead Adoption Specialist. "Social work field placement is an essential component of the development for MSW students, and we are proud to be able to provide students with an opportunity to blend their clinical and textbook skills with public policy application," said Professor Linda Baker, who supervises the social work interns on behalf of the institute.

## 4TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S GOVERNMENT DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL

The fourth annual Women's Government Day was recently conducted by the institute in Springfield, Ill. The annual event was created to educate women and provide exposure to leadership, public service and civic education in the state. The Women in Leadership, Public Service and Civic Engagement trip was implemented by the institute, the Women's Civic Institute and supporters to stimulate interest and empower women who plan to advance their careers in government and the public sector.

The kickoff to this year's program was titled, "Women in the Legislature: Philosophy of Leadership," with Reps. Mary Flowers (D-Chicago) and Terri Bryant. (R-Murphysboro) The legislators inspired the event's attendees to forge their own careers in public service by sharing their own journeys. These personal insights into the public sector helped emerging women leaders understand how a seemingly impossible task is one that starts with courage.

Other prominent speakers included: Nichole Magalis, Vice President of the Illinois Health and Hospital Association; Liz Brown-Reeves, governmental affairs consultant of Liz Brown-Reeves Consult-



Participants pictured with Howard Peters III, institute Board of Counselors member and trip sponsor.

ing and Kristine Herman, Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Behavioral Health of Illinois Healthcare and Family Services.

Three former students now working in Springfield, Ryan Gougis, Hannah Meisel and LaKeisha Purchase, spoke about their career paths in civil service and the impact of internships in the General Assembly.

The program was highlighted by our keynote speaker and consistent supporter, Howard Peters III, a former Cabinet secretary under Illinois Governor Jim Edgar. Peters reflected on strong women figures in his life and emphasized the impact women have at all levels of various fields.

"My mother's own strength in working and raising a family was one of the most inspiring examples I had in my life," noted

Peters. "This trip is a way for me to give back and contribute to the next generation of strong women, who will go on to impact the workplaces, communities, economy and society of tomorrow."

In addition to a plethora of guest speakers and panelists, the women also met with former Senate Republican Leader Christine Radogno, Sen. Jil Tracy (R-Quincy) and Rep. Will Davis (D-Homewood). They were invited into the gallery as the special guests of Illinois Speaker of the House Michael J. Madigan. This invitation allows the group of women to observe a legislative debate and note the competing interests vying to influence policy outcomes.

Watch highlights of Women's YGD at: <http://bit.ly/womenYGD17>

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

We are pleased to acknowledge any gifts made in honor or memory of loved ones. Mark your check accordingly or include a note as you wish.

## LOIS HERR BEQUEST TO THE INSTITUTE



(l-r) Paul Simon and Lois Herr

Photo provided by Bill Herr.

The institute received a generous bequest from the estate of Lois Herr in October 2016. The donation was specifically directed to help support public lectures and other programs of the institute.

Lois and her husband, Bill Herr, are long-time participants in the institute's programs and were frequently present at the public lectures and events. Bill Herr, in commenting on Lois's involvement with the institute said, "Lois felt that the institute's programs are very important for the university and the community, and she enjoyed attending those events."

For many years, Lois was a volunteer working in Paul Simon's office in Carbondale. She also volunteered in Sen. Simon's office on Capitol Hill when Bill took a sabbatical in Washington, D.C. They were there during the Watergate hearings in 1974, and she frequently took her daughters to the hearings to see history in the making. Later she served as a volunteer for the institute after it was established on the SIU Carbondale campus.

The Herr family has lived in Carbondale since 1957 when Bill left a position as an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago to become a faculty member in what is now the Department of Agricultural Economics.

He is a former chair of the department and a former interim dean of the College of Agriculture.

They have two daughters, Marleigh Stewart and Debbie Herr Sparks. Stewart is a graduate of St. Louis University, and attended SIU as a graduate student in the Department of Sociology. She is married to retired appellate court judge, Bruce Stewart. Judge Stewart holds a bachelor's degree in government from SIU and a juris doctorate from SIU School of Law where he was a member of the first graduating class. Both have also been active in local political and civic activities in Harrisburg prior to their move to Carbondale. Sparks is a two-degree graduate of the College of Education and taught Special Education in the Carterville schools for thirty-five years before retirement.

Interim Director Jak Tichenor, in responding to the gift said, "Lois Herr recognized the importance of providing private funds to support our programs in a time of great budgetary stress caused by the reductions in state funding for the university. We are sincerely grateful for the support Lois provided to us in her will. We also value the friendship of the whole family and their faithful attendance at our many public events."

## FOREVER SIU



THE CAMPAIGN FOR STUDENTS  
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

A three-year, \$75 million fundraising campaign will provide scholarships and other support for the students of SIU Carbondale.

"Forever SIU: The Campaign for Students" was launched Jan. 1, 2017, by the SIU Foundation, which raises private funds to support the university. It will end in December 2019, the year of the university's 150th anniversary.

The foundation has already raised more than \$35 million toward the goal. The highest priority of the campaign is to raise more than \$48 million for scholarships to help students stay in college and graduate. Contributions to the Jeanne Hurley Simon Memorial Scholarship, David Yepsen Director's Award, Mike Lawrence Scholarship, Barbara Brown Memorial Fund and Edwin Phillips Debate Scholarship directly support this priority.

Other priorities include expanding opportunities through internships, career development and other initiatives; enhancing facilities and resources such as teaching laboratories and library materials; and deepening student and faculty engagement with the region through community-focused research, cultural events and outreach to high school students.

Contributions to institute endowment and the Alexander Lane, Gene Callahan, and Latino Heritage Legislative Internship funds support these priorities.

There are many ways to be a part of this campaign through the institute's programing and student opportunities.

Your support helps the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute publish nonpartisan policy data and analysis, bring people together, and invest in the futures of students.

### DONATE ONLINE AT

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# BARB BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Donate online at:  
[www.barbbrownmemorial.org](http://www.barbbrownmemorial.org)

The institute is pleased to announce that Jennifer Rich of West Frankfort is the first recipient of the Barb Brown Memorial Scholarship. A senior majoring in criminal justice with a minor in political science at SIU Carbondale, Rich



*Barbara Brown*

was a Demuzio intern last spring assigned to Man-Tra-Con Corporation Director Kathy Lively.

Rich has taken part in numerous volunteer activities including the Kozy Kids Daycare Center and as an officer in the SIUC Pre-Law Association. "She epitomizes the qualities of good citizenship that Barb Brown's family and friends wanted to encourage in young people when they established the scholarship in Barb's

memory," said Professor John Jackson. She plans to attend law school upon graduation, preferably at SIU.

The scholarship honors the life and legacy of Barbara Leavitt Brown, Ph.D. A three-degree graduate of SIU, she taught in the department of political science and to international students through a summer program funded by the U.S. State Department. She later served as Clerk of the Courts in Randolph County, Illinois.

Dr. Brown was a co-founder of the Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership, vice chair of the Democratic Party of Illinois, co-founder of Southwestern Illinois Democratic Women, founder of Southern Illinois Democratic Women, and former chairwoman of the Randolph County Democratic Central Committee. She attended and was a nine-time delegate to the Democratic National Convention, a two-time candidate for Illinois Fifty-Eighth

State Senate District, and served notable roles in the campaigns of Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

The fund was created to enrich the educational opportunities for students of SIU Carbondale and promote the principle that public higher education shares a responsibility to encourage public service and serve the public good.

"Barb Brown had a unique ability to represent and combine the best of both the academic world and the world of practical politics she embodied in her career," said Dr. Jackson. "She was a popular professor in political science, and she and David Kenney literally wrote the book on Illinois government. She also was a dedicated public official and political activist."

As President Obama said in a letter read at her memorial, "If you wanted something done in Southern Illinois, you called Barb Brown."

## THE DAVID YEPSEN DIRECTOR'S AWARD ENDOWED BY THE DONOWS

Just prior to David Yepsen's retirement from the institute, through the generosity of local supporters Herb and Carolyn Donow, the David Yepsen Director's Award was created and endowed. This endowment formalizes one of Yepsen's first initiatives as director. He created a \$1,000 annual award for one outstanding institute-affiliated student each year with the recipient chosen by the director. The 2016 recipient was Lucas Taylor, an institute student employee who graduated in December 2016 with a bachelor's degree in accounting.

The Yepsen Award will be made to an SIU Carbondale, institute-affiliated student in good standing in recognition of his or her assistance with the operation of the institute, execution of institute programs, or contribution to the institute's activities or work products. Institute affiliated students include, but are not limited to, student employees; institute ambassadors; any student in any institute internship, fellowship, or externship; students otherwise contributing to an institute project or program. The award may be used for tuition, housing, books, other expenses related to



*(l-r) Lucas Taylor (2016 award recipient) and David Yepsen at Yepsen's retirement reception.*

education or research, including travel.

The Donows, both of whom hold doctoral degrees, believe it is important for students to learn civic duty and have opportunities like those provided at the institute to increase their knowledge of and opportunities in public engagement. The Donows also wish that this award honor David Yepsen's seven years of service and significant contribution to the public image and profile of the institute and SIU.

David Yepsen became director of the institute on April 1, 2009, and retired on Oct. 31, 2016. Previously, he had a 34-year career with the Des Moines Register, serving as the paper's chief political writer, political editor and political columnist. He is a native of Jefferson, Iowa, and is a 1972 graduate of the University of Iowa.

In 1985 he earned a Master's of Public Administration (MPA) degree from Drake University. In 1989, he was a fellow at the Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. In 2008, he was a fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard where he led a study group on the nation's presidential selection processes.

In his book about the 1988 presidential race, the late Sen. Paul Simon praised Yepsen's objectivity. "Every four years the chief political reporter for the Des Moines Register becomes the most important reporter in the nation," he said. "It is a position that could cause vanity and abuse. To his credit, David Yepsen handled this position with sensitivity and balance. And he worked hard."

## CIVIC EDUCATION WORKSHOP WITH ROBERT M. McCORMICK FOUNDATION



A host of high school teachers from across Southern Illinois attended a civics education workshop in June at SIU Carbondale to learn more about implementing House Bill 4025. The legislation requires future Illinois high school students complete semester-long civics course about government institutions, current and controversial issues discussions, service learning, and simulations of democratic processes.

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation partnered with the institute for the workshop entitled: Civics, Standards and News Literacy: Providing Pathways for Student Engagement. The program utilized discussion, service-learning and simulations to teach strategies for bringing these practices into their classrooms. The workshop provided free lesson plans from respected civic education providers and information about local resources to supplement civics instruction.

"I really think the new civics law is key to our democracy," said Mary Ellen Daneels, lead teacher mentor for the McCormick Foundation. "These new policies in Illinois aren't just about what we teach in our social studies classes, but how we teach it. It's how kids become informed citizens in our democratic republic and empower them to take informed action as members of our community."

The institute and the McCormick Foundation have held seven teacher workshops since 2010, which have benefitted of hundreds of teachers and administrators and thousands of students throughout southern Illinois.

Watch highlights of this workshop at:  
<http://bit.ly/civic-ed-june17>

## ILLINOIS SCHOOL FUNDING FAIRNESS CONFERENCE - MARCH 2017



Watch highlights of this conference at  
<http://bit.ly/illinois-school-funding>

More than 100 Southern Illinois school superintendents, principals, board members, students, and interested members of the public gathered for a day-long conference on Illinois School Funding Fairness. The event brought together elected officials, school funding policy experts, and school administrators to discuss the work of the Illinois Commission on School Funding Reform appointed by Governor Bruce Rauner to overhaul the state's antiquated K-12 school funding system.

Daniel Thatcher, an education funding expert with the National Conference on State Legislatures, provided attendees a historical overview of Illinois school funding and detailed information about how Illinois falls woefully short in the amount of state school support compared to other states in the country.

Ralph Martire, executive director for the bipartisan nonprofit Center for Tax and Budget Accountability focused his presentation on his organization's analysis of the potential benefits of the Evidence-Based Model (EBM) of school funding under consideration by the commission. EBM is designed to identify the level of funding needed to deliver an adequate education to every student in a state by using a set of 27 criteria to determine funding adequacy targets for individual school districts and their unique student populations.

Commission members participated in a round-table discussion on their work and took questions from the audience. Illinois Secretary of Education Beth Purvis, who chaired the commission, said, "Every one of the elected officials left politics at the door and had real and robust conversations with children at the center of our discussions," during hundreds of hours of

formal and informal deliberations. Two of the Illinois Senate's top negotiators on K-12 school funding reform brought their perspectives to the table. Sen. Andy Manar (D-Bunker Hill), said that when commission members, including members of all four legislative caucuses came to the conclusion that "it takes it a little more money to educate some children than other children to get the same outcome... that is a sea change." Sen. Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) agreed. "I think we've seen a monumental shift in thinking within the Capitol, within the political leadership that affords us some political goodwill here to get something done."

Brent Clark, the executive director of the Illinois Association of School Administrators worked closely with the commission on the technical aspects of writing legislation to implement the Evidence-Based Model. "We wanted a policy that would fix the financial issues schools were facing, but we also wanted one that would be dynamic, that would recognize shifts in population and the demographics across our state. It would be based in research and most importantly, it would help kids if it was properly implemented," said Clark.

The event concluded with an exercise led by Clark in which four southern Illinois school superintendents used the EBM framework to create budgets for their districts. The panel included Gary Kelly of Du Quoin Community Unit School District #300, Steve Murphy of Carbondale Community High School District 165, Dr. Steve Webb of Goreville Community Unit School District #1 and Derrick Hutchins of Crab Orchard Community Orchard Unit School District 3.

## SPRING 2017 SIMON POLL DATA



During the first week of March, the institute conducted another in its series of statewide polls. These polls are designed to take a sounding of the views and values of Illinois voters regarding a wide variety of public policy and political issues. The polls have been conducted periodically since 2008, and the results now constitute a large and growing body of longitudinal data that scholars and students alike can use to support their research. Several dissertations, research papers and articles have made use of these polls to provide faculty and graduate students with high quality poll data that would not otherwise be available.

The results of our polls are also widely used and quoted in the media and by those engaged in the policy-making process. In fact, the Simon Poll™ has become the gold standard for statewide polling in Illinois and has served to keep the institute and SIU in the spotlight because of the timely and accurate data the polls produce.

The spring 2017 iteration was a good example of this trend. In that poll we

included a series of questions which plumbed the public's attitudes toward job approval for the state's major leaders, questions of taxes and the budget, possible state programs to be cut, items in the governor's "turnaround agenda" and timely topics like the proposal to decriminalize marijuana, trends in human trafficking, and issues with the Affordable Care Act.

Among other results that were widely noted, the poll found that the governor and the speaker of the house, Bruce Rauner and Mike Madigan, were both "underwater"—that is, there were far more respondents who gave them a negative job approval rating than a positive one.

The poll showed that there was an almost equal tie between those who wanted to cure the state's budget ills with program cuts only and those who thought some new revenues would be necessary. The longitudinal data showed that those on the side of new revenue had increased over time and those who thought we could cut our way out of the crisis had declined somewhat. The two sides are almost exactly even in our most recent poll with 46 percent willing to consider new revenue and 45 percent convinced that cutting was the only way out.

On the marijuana questions we found an increasing level of support for a proposal to decriminalize marijuana and to make possession of small amounts a misdemeanor with a fine and a similar proposal to treat marijuana like alcohol by regulating and taxing it. Human trafficking is not so widely discussed and a slight majority of Illinois voters did not believe that it was a major problem in their area, but they also thought law enforcement personnel should receive increased training on how to handle the problem.

All of these results show just how relevant and timely poll results are and how the Simon Poll™ has become the go to source for excellent state wide poll results in Illinois.

To learn more, visit [www.simonpoll.org](http://www.simonpoll.org)



*(l-r) Interim Director Jak Tichenor, Professor Linda Baker and Professor John Jackson presenting poll data.*

## KI-MOON CONTINUED...

Ban said young people are especially equipped to enact change in the world due to their "dynamic passion" for their lives and goals. "But if your passion is not accompanied by compassion, you may end up in the wrong destination. We can work together to make this world a better place for all people."

The Secretary-General thanked the chancellor's office and the institute for co-sponsoring his visit, noting Sen. Paul Simon's past commitment to international education and his advocacy for the U.S. to engage in international affairs. "As someone who has visited more than 150 countries across a decade as Secretary-General, I can tell you he sounds like my kind of guy!" Ban said.

Sen. Simon helped drive two UN foreign assistance laws to support global

cooperation in addressing the challenges of supplying clean water to those in need. His "bipartisan spirit" represented the U.S. well in UN meetings about weapon control under Presidents Carter and Reagan.

Ban has been influenced by two different U.S. presidents during his lifetime, Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy. Following his visit to SIU, the Secretary-General traveled to Springfield to visit Abraham Lincoln's Presidential Library and Museum.

"One can draw a straight line from the principles that President Lincoln defended to those that animate the United Nations," Ban said during his address. "Lincoln was a heroic force for equality, integration and reconciliation; these ideals represent the best spirit of the U.S., and we desperately need that spirit today."

Ban added that students should get involved by telling their local government leaders to lower greenhouse gas emissions to help create a more sustainable world for future generations to live in. He pointed out that the world is "undergoing a transition" and becoming younger and more urban.

"We are striving to make a crucial economic and environmental transition to a safer, more sustainable path of development in order to make peace with the planet and ensure prosperity for people."

Watch WSU's event coverage  
this historic visit at:  
<http://bit.ly/siu-ban-kimoon>

## THE MORTON-KENNEY PUBLIC AFFAIRS LECTURE SERIES WITH CAROL MARIN

Political/investigative reporter and co-director of the Center for Journalism Integrity & Excellence at DePaul University Carol Marin told SIU students and community members last fall: "We're at a point of reckoning in a civil society that's lost its civility."

Marin's message centered on the 2016 presidential and legislative elections, which she described as more "vitriolic, slanderous, and destructive" than any past election she has covered in her more than 40 years as a journalist.

During this lecture, titled "Confessions of a Die-Hard Political Reporter in an Apocalyptic Year," Marin said whoever wins the presidential election will be tasked with healing the wounds caused by contentious campaigns full of doomsday-esque warnings and extreme language.

"It won't be easy and it might not be possible," Marin said.

Marin remembered covering Paul Simon's first senatorial campaign in 1984, where she was "one of the few girls on the bus back when there were mostly boys." She went on to report about Simon's bid for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988. Though Simon was seen as a long shot in many parts of the country, Marin said in Iowa he was always a con-



tender because of his Midwestern values. In American politics today, Marin said later, Simon would not fare well because of the extreme polarization between the two major parties.

"There isn't much room for moderates, for people who want to work across the aisle," Marin said. "He would spend many sleepless nights agonizing over the endless search for more and more millions to fund campaigns, especially given the discomfort he felt in asking people he didn't particularly like for money. Paul Simon would not fit into this electorate."

Marin also focused on the political climate in Illinois, saying the discourse surrounding the state elections "makes you almost believe there is an apocalypse coming."

She said part of the problem is indifference among Illinois voters, adding that the

state ranks 31st in voter turnout for presidential elections. "This can be attributed to the fact that voters don't trust their elected officials, police departments, or even public school systems to tell them the truth or see to their best interests," Marin said.

Rank-and-file state legislators, afraid of crossing either Gov. Rauner or Speaker Madigan, give "meaningless soundbites" to reporters, she said, in a time when the public already doesn't trust the media to get the message across.

The lecture series was founded by SIU alumnus Jerry Mileur to honor two professors he had while attending SIU. The series invites political scientists, academics and political practitioners to campus.

Watch this event video at:  
<http://bit.ly/psppi-carol-marin>

## THE GIL AND JEAN KROENING LECTURE WITH STEVEN ELLIS

1976 SIU graduate and U.S. Bureau of Land Management Deputy Director Steve Ellis told gathered students, alumni and community members the most important skill he uses in his work is the ability to build relationships.

The BLM manages 10 percent of the surface area of the U.S. amounting to about 245 million acres of land primarily located in the west. Many of their efforts are collaborative, as Ellis joins forces with local and state governments, engages with citizens, and works with sovereign tribal nations to achieve the bureau's goals.

The BLM works to advance clean energy, manage wildlife and protect the treasured landscapes and forests in the country. Ellis emphasized the importance of wildfire management for the Bureau as well-50 percent of their budget goes to



controlling and monitoring fires, he said.

Ellis addressed a question about the preservation of indigenous rights and sacred lands by further asserting the importance of working together with tribes. He said the BLM has a trust responsibility with sovereign tribes to ensure the welfare of the land and build relationships with tribal leaders.

He went on to highlight the education he received at SIU as invaluable to the

work he does with the BLM today.

"The natural resources foundation I learned here I use every day," Ellis said.

The lecture series was founded by former SIU agriculture dean Gil Kroening and his wife Jean to bring notable agricultural and political speakers to campus.

Watch this event video at:  
<http://bit.ly/psppi-steven-ellis>

## ROTARY OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

For eight days in April, the Rotary Club of Carbondale Breakfast made Southern Illinois host to a delegation of government and civil society leaders from Kosovo, one of the rising new democracies in Eurasia. The delegation of six Kosovars was part of the Open World Program (OWP) which explored the theme of public inclusion in the policy making process. The OWP is part of the Open World Leadership Center, an independent government agency of the U.S. Congress. A two top Kosovo government officials, a senior political advisor to the Prime Minister of Kosovo and an advisor to the Kosovo minister of Dialogue at the EU were among the delegates.

The delegation engaged in dialogue, workshops and visits with elected government officials, civil society activists, think-tank professionals, and leaders of varied interest groups. The delegates were exposed to the best practices and varying degrees of participation that shape public policies in our region, state, and America's active democracy.

The institute organized workshops, presentations and exchanges, including "The Think Tank Bridge," which explained Paul Simon's vision of a "do-tank" versus a think tank, the "Gains of Women in Politics and Public Service" with Illinois State Rep. Terri Bryant, former Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon and moderated by Mythili Rundblad, director of the Center for Volunteerism and Service Learning. The guests also viewed Jak Tichenor's "P.S. Illinois: The Paul Simon Story," and toured the Capitol and other sites in Springfield.

"The institute is the calm, active, human face of informed democracy in Illinois. The Rotary Club were most honored by their generous partnership on this project," said Segun Ojewuyi, a professor with SIU's Department of Theater and the director of International Service for the Rotary Club of Carbondale Breakfast.

To learn more about the Open World Leadership Center, you can visit <https://www.openworld.gov>

## THE JEANNE HURLEY SIMON LECTURE SERIES WITH TEQUIA HICKS-DELGADO



Watch this event video at: <http://bit.ly/psppi-tequia-delgado>

She was once a student worker at the institute's front desk answering phones, greeting visitors and supporting the staff while pursuing a political science degree. Just a few years later, Carbondale native Tequia Hicks-Delgado worked inside President Barack Obama's White House, helping influence policy.

In March 2017, Hicks-Delgado presented, "Homecoming: From the Institute's Front Desk to Conquering Washington, D.C.," as part of the Jeanne Hurley Simon Fellowship Lecture Series. The series features distinguished women in the fields of politics, government and public affairs. Jeanne Hurley Simon was Sen. Paul Simon's first wife who passed away in February 2000.

In her address, Hicks-Delgado encouraged young people to seize opportunities to be involved in public affairs, their community and the things they care about. She also encouraged them to seek out and appreciate mentors and to mentor others.

She served as a senior adviser for congressional engagement and legislative relations in the White House Office of

Legislative Affairs from June 2016 to January 2017. Prior to that, she served as member relations adviser in the White House's Office of Legislative Affairs from March 2014 to June 2016. While in the White House, Hicks-Delgado helped shape opportunities for President Obama and the administration to engage members of Congress — managing bill signing ceremonies, the State of the Union Address, the White House Congressional Picnic and the White House Congressional Ball.

Prior to her work in the White House, Hicks-Delgado served in the office of former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada, and the U.S. Senate Democratic Caucus. She also worked in the office of Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Illinois, the current Democratic Whip in the U.S. Senate. There, she directed constituency services and legislative correspondence on education, veterans affairs, homeland security and governmental affairs. While at SIU Carbondale, she was president of the Undergraduate Student Government and later served as a student representative on the SIU Board of Trustees.

## THE MORTON-KENNEY PUBLIC AFFAIRS LECTURE SERIES WITH JOHN SIDES, Ph.D.



Watch this event video at: <http://bit.ly/psppi-john-sides>

Spring 2017's Morton-Kenney Public Affairs Lecture Series featured Associate Professor John Sides, who studies political behavior in American and comparative politics. He helped found and contributes to *The Monkey Cage*, a website about politics that is now part of the *Washington Post*.

## HAVE YOU READ THE LATEST 'THE SIMON REVIEWS?'

During the last academic year the institute published three new papers in *The Simon Review* series. They are as follows:

**Paper #48 by John Adams, Jaye Hobart, and Mark Rosenberg, "The Illinois Veterans Treatment Court Mandate: from Concept to Success" October 2016**

This paper was written by graduate and law students from Northwestern, the University of Chicago and Yale who have had first-hand experience with setting up and running an Illinois Veterans Treatment Court through their assignments at John Marshall Law School's Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic. This topic became compelling when the Illinois General Assembly mandated that each circuit court in Illinois must set up a veteran's court by Jan. 1, 2018.

The paper describes how such a court should be set up and illustrates the process with their experiences in Cook County. The paper also provides a template for the procedures which must be followed and

the officials that must be involved in order to establish and operate such a court. In providing this template the authors have designed a map which can save Illinois jurisdictions time and money in complying with the new law and bringing about an increased level of special handling for Illinois veterans who may have legal problems.

**Paper #49 by John S. Jackson, "The Presidential Election in Illinois: 2016 Compared to 2012 and 2008" February 2017**

As the name indicates, the author provided an analysis of the 2016 presidential election results in Illinois and then compares those results with the past elections with a focus on 2012 and 2008. He uses data from both the statewide polls done by the institute and data at the county level drawn from the Illinois State Board of Elections results. Jackson documents the regions in Illinois which provide the party base for the Democrats and the Republicans.

This paper documents the deepening level of political and partisan polarization in Illinois and in the nation as a whole. He discusses how this polarization makes it increasingly difficult for either party to govern since compromise is now extremely hard to achieve. This means that public policy making slows down or grinds to a halt, a phenomenon especially evident in the inability of the state of Illinois to produce a budget for over two years and the periodic shut-down or threatened shut-down of the government at the federal level because of budgetary and policy stalemate.

To learn more about **Paper #50 by Marnie Leonard, "Governor Rauner's Turnaround agenda from a Comparative State Policy Context" May 2017**, please see page 8.

**Contact us to add your name to The Simon Review mailing list, or digitally find all of the papers at:**

[www.thesimonreview.org](http://www.thesimonreview.org)

## "ILLINOIS LAWMAKERS" PBS SERIES JOINS INSTITUTE MEDIA OUTREACH

"Illinois Lawmakers," public television's longest-running continuing coverage of the Illinois General Assembly, has been incorporated into the media outreach efforts of the institute, beginning with the fall veto session of 2016. The statewide public affairs series features live coverage of the Governor's State of the State and budget messages, and weekly half-hour episodes during May and early June, the fall veto session, and other special sessions.

"Illinois Lawmakers" has earned a well-deserved reputation as the television program of record for legislative coverage since its debut in the spring session of 1986. "There's really nothing else quite like it in scope and substance," says Interim Director Jak Tichenor, who has served as statehouse correspondent for the program since 1991. "This is the one place where both parties know that they'll get a chance to tell their side of the story and defend their viewpoints before the citizens of Illinois."

The series airs statewide on Illinois PBS member stations in Carbondale, Charleston, Chicago, Macomb, Olney, Peoria, Springfield, Quincy, Urbana, and the Quad Cities and each episode is branded at the beginning with an underwriting credit for program support from the institute.

"With a potential audience of nearly 13-million viewers across the state, 'Illinois Lawmakers' is an excellent means of calling attention to the institute and its work of informing Illinois citizens about their state government and politics," said Tichenor. "Ten-second sound-bites simply can't do justice to the complexity of the issues we cover on the program like the state budget crisis, that's why we routinely invite the General Assembly's top policy experts from both sides of the aisle and give them a chance to debate the issues at length."

"Illinois Lawmakers" unequalled access to the people making policy for Illinois makes the series unique. "We have worked very hard over the years to develop a

rapport with both rank and file members and the legislative leaders who appear as guests on the program," said Tichenor. "They trust us to get the story right, and we've earned their respect for being scrupulously balanced in our coverage." As a result, "Illinois Lawmakers" consistently features exclusive newsmaker interviews with the legislative leaders, lively on-set debates between committee chairs and ranking members, and expert analysis from the state's most respected print and electronic journalists.

The "Illinois Lawmakers" series is produced by WSIU Public Broadcasting at SIU Carbondale and WTVP, Peoria.

**Watch all episodes of Illinois Lawmakers at:**  
<http://illinoislawmakers.org>



**Tim Tagaris and Zach Schneider**  
**"Two Salukis for Bernie Sanders,**  
**A View of Digital Campaign"**  
 Fundraising - Sept. 27, 2016

Tim Tagaris and Zach Schneider, two senior national Bernie Sanders staffers and SIU alumni shared their experiences working on digital campaigning for Sanders's presidential campaign.



**City Club of Chicago Event**  
 Oct. 6, 2016

David Yepsen and Dr. John Jackson took the stage at a City Club of Chicago event with others to dissect Illinois public affairs through the lens of the public opinion data in an event titled "Illinois Attitudes: Discussion of the latest Simon Poll™." They were joined on stage by Becky Carroll and Pat Brady.



**"Election Autopsy"**  
 Nov. 16, 2016

Institute Interim Director Jak Tichenor, Dr. John Jackson, Dr. Todd Graham and Dr. Tobin Grant dissected the results of the 2016 Election. Co-sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts.



**Illinois State Rep.**  
**Will Guzzardi (D-Chicago)**  
 Jan. 26, 2017

Rep. Guzzardi visited SIU and discussed his proposal to make Illinois colleges and universities tuition-free for in-state students.



**Illinois State Rep. Will Davis (D-Chicago)**  
 March 6, 2017

SIUC alumnus Rep. Will Davis held a student roundtable discussion at the institute. He talked about his work on the bipartisan School Funding Reform Commission and the budget impasse. He also met with student leaders, SIU President Randy Dunn and former interim Chancellor Brad Colwell.

**Conference on Children In Poverty**  
 March 23-24, 2017

The institute co-sponsored with the University of Illinois Springfield Center for State Policy and Leadership on a two-day conference entitled, "Building Our Children's Futures: A Multi-Disciplinary Conference to Address and Confront Child Poverty." Dr. Linda Baker, university professor from the institute, and Patty Byrnes, economist, Economics Department and Center for State Policy University of Illinois Springfield presented data from their research: "Poverty and Poverty Programs in Illinois: Does Where You Live Matter."



**Pizza and Politics: The Simon Poll**  
**Brief Presentation**  
 March 25, 2017

The institute hosted a presentation of statewide public policy poll results and answered audience questions. The presentation took a look at the new data from the latest Simon Poll™ Spring 2017.



**Meet Your Lawmakers**  
 April 20, 2017

The institute hosted an open forum with Illinois State Sen. Paul Schimpf (R-Waterloo) and State Sen. Dale Fowler (R-Harrisburg) where they discussed the Illinois budget and other issues.



**Illinois, a State Divided?**  
 July 12, 2017

The institute and the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform co-sponsored the panel discussion at DePaul University in Chicago. Dr. John S. Jackson, visiting professor at the institute, presented data from the latest Simon Polls™ to illustrate the state's political fault lines.

As this newsletter was preparing to be printed, the institute learned it lost a true friend. Jerry Mileur, Ph.D., a founding member of the Board of Counselors and a major benefactor to the institute passed away on Sept. 5, 2017. His positive impact on SIU and the institute is substantial. We will devote a larger space in the next newsletter to honor Jerry.



## “REFLECTING ON 20 YEARS OF THE PAUL SIMON INSTITUTE” WITH FORMER ILLINOIS GOVERNOR JIM EDGAR

Former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar delivered the spring keynote speech marking the 20th anniversary of the founding of the institute at SIU Carbondale on Thursday, May 4. Edgar, the state’s 38th governor, signed the official documents that created the institute in ceremonies in front of Shryock Auditorium on September 19th, 1995.

“I’ll never forget coming down to Carbondale on that sunny fall afternoon 22 years ago,” he told the audience of more than 120. “I have to tell you that after 20 years, the institute has far exceeded any hopes I had for its success. First, in the development of public policy-its tough to have an impact on public policy and it’s not the most rational process. The institute has proven time and time again that it’s up to that task.”

Edgar, who got his start in Springfield as a legislative intern, said the institute’s impact on young people through its many college internship programs and high school programs is perhaps its most



important contribution to Illinois.

“If we’re going to have a good state, we need good young people who are motivated and willing to provide their time to public service, to be involved in the development of public policy. The institute has guided hundreds of SIU students into being a part of that process and many have gone on to work full time in government service.”

Edgar commended the institute’s faculty, students, and staff for producing practical academic research papers needed by public policymakers over the last two decades and for bringing “dozens and dozens of state leaders, national leaders, even

world leaders to Carbondale.”

Edgar closed by saying that “under the leadership and the vision of Paul Simon, and then Mike Lawrence, and most recently David Yepsen, this institute has served Illinois, SIU and the people of southern Illinois...better than anyone could have hoped for. And I’m sure that somewhere up there, wherever Paul is, he’s looking down, and he’s extremely proud of what this institute has done. But also, knowing Paul Simon, he’s not going to dwell too much on past accomplishments. He’s going to say alright, what are you to do the next 20 years?”

Watch more at <http://bit.ly/psppi-edgar-20years>