

Review & Preview

The newsletter of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
at Southern Illinois University Carbondale



Former New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman kicked off the Institute's Women in Politics Series.

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN LAUNCHES WOMEN IN POLITICS SERIES

Former New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman told an Institute audience that more women should run for political offices and that they will have to work harder than men to win them.

Whitman, a Republican and a former EPA administrator for President George W. Bush, spent three days on the SIUC campus as part of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges.

This was Whitman's second visit to Carbondale in four years, having participated in an Institute panel discussion in 2007 on the future of moderates in American politics. Her book, "It's My Party, Too," made the *New York Times* best sellers list.

While on campus this fall, Whitman spoke to numerous classes and student groups, met with a bi-partisan group of southern Illinois women leaders and delivered a keynote

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CIVIC EDUCATION: WE CAN DO BETTER

Gery Chico, the chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education, told a group of about 100 southern Illinois educators and school officials that more must be done to provide civics education to students in the state. Chico, a Democrat and one of the state's leading Latino officials, keynoted the Institute's first civics conference.

"It's interesting, one of the most frequently asked questions I get as I travel around is from people about, 'Why aren't you teaching more civics in our schools,'" said Chico. "Basically, today we're suffering from a lack of civic knowledge."

He cited a national report showing that two-thirds of all American students scored below proficiency on the subject of civics.

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INSTITUTE HONORS TRAILBLAZING LEGISLATOR THROUGH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Honoring the legacy of a trailblazing African American student at SIUC Carbondale has led to the creation of a legislative internship for students.

Alexander Lane, the first black male to attend what was then a fledgling teacher's college, was born in pre-Civil War Mississippi to a slave. Thanks to SIUC's early commitment to a diverse student body, Lane, who enrolled in 1876, went on to become an educator, a physician and a state legislator.

"Not only is Alexander Lane an important, and overlooked, part of SIUC history, but he serves as a role model for our students today," said David Yepsen, Institute

director. "An internship in his honor will be a living legacy for him that can inspire and help our students -- and provide a service to the community and policy makers today."

The Institute is more than halfway to raising the \$150,000 for the endowed internship. The first internship award will likely be in spring 2013, said Matt Baughman, the Institute's associate director who is spearheading the fundraising drive after seeing a display of Lane at the university's Morris Library during Black History Month.

"I was immediately drawn to the Alexander Lane story and moved by the idea our University could have such an impressive and compelling account of its first black male student that was just waiting to be widely shared," Baughman said.

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Contributions of any amount to the Alexander Lane Internship endowment are welcomed. A Founding Members Club will honor those making a major gift or pledge by Dec. 31, 2011.

More information on the internship endowment drive and the program is available at paulsimoninstitute.org, or by contacting Matt Baughman at 618/453-4001 or baughman@siu.edu.

A MESSAGE FROM DAVID YEPSEN



It seems like every other day there's news of another ethics scandal in Illinois. There were the Rod Blagojevich trials and convictions. Then came abuses of public pension systems by a few people. Stories pop up about local officials using their position for personal gain.

It makes you heartsick. Is our civic life still defined by that motto columnist Mike Royko coined: "Where's mine?" Illinois is taking a beating on the late night talk shows and citizens are angry and turned off. While the vast majority of public employees and public officials in Illinois are doing a good, honest job, they are unfairly tarred by the actions of a few.

Worst of all, it hurts Illinois' efforts at economic development. This isn't a joking matter anymore. After all, who wants to locate or expand a business in a state with the financial and ethical troubles we have? Corruption raises the cost of government. Business leaders don't know what the tax burden is going to be and they don't like doing business in a state with a reputation for "pay to play."

It's discouraging to sit in Paul Simon's old chair and wonder what he'd think about it. First of all he wouldn't throw up his hands. He'd get to work. He'd dig out that old typewriter and crank out one of those trademark editorials or columns of his. He'd take on corruption in the state he loved for years. He'd be running for office or working for good candidates.

This Institute – his living legacy – can't run for office, but we can help. As I said in my note to you last year, a good public policy institute is one that brings together students, academics and practitioners to study problems, make change and develop leaders. We did a lot of that in 2011 and more is on tap for 2012:

- Our annual public opinion polls of Illinois and southern Illinois voters measure sentiment about reform efforts and ideas. We believe that helps reformers and policy makers craft good policy to clean up the state.
- We're planning a conference on Illinois' ethical problems in September at the Union League Club in Chicago. We'll bring together academics, experts and practitioners to discuss the causes of corruption and unethical behavior in Illinois and fashion some cures.
- Law student Joseph Cervantez is completing research on a paper examining whether the new citizen-based redistricting plans in California and Florida could serve as prototypes for a new system in Illinois in ten years.
- We conduct leadership training in Springfield and here at the Institute to help the next generation hone its political skills.
- To help area educators, we also partnered with the McCormick Foundation, Mikva Challenge and regional school superintendent Marc Kiehna to hold our first civic education workshop to support teachers in their work.

- To inspire students, Matt Baughman led the charge creating a statehouse internship in honor of Dr. Alexander Lane, the first African American male student at SIU.
- Dr. Linda Baker organized the 9th annual Leadership Weekend for young African American males in the East St. Louis region to provide them leadership training and a sense of opportunity.
- Dr. Charlie Leonard is organizing the first of what we hope are annual student tours of the nation's capitol, also something we hope inspires the students who work and volunteer at the Institute to pursue careers in public service.
- And in case anyone wants to know "What would Paul think," Dr. John Jackson has compiled an anthology of Simon's most memorable writings. The SIU press plans to publish it in 2012.

There's lots more. You can check it out on our website. It's ambitious work but rewarding work. We thank you for the financial support you give us that makes it all possible.

David Yepsen

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INTERNSHIP PAID OFF FOR CLAYTON BLACK



When Clayton Black had the opportunity to serve as a Vince Demuzio Intern through the Simon Institute, he didn't foresee how valuable the experience would be.

But he sees it now.

"Were it not for the Demuzio Internship my junior year, I would not have been given the opportunity I now have with the Partnership for a Connected Illinois," said Black, who graduated this past May with a bachelor's degree in political science. "Without it, I'm not sure what I'd be doing now. It's made all the difference as I start my career."

As a Demuzio intern, Black was placed with Connect SI, a regional initiative

in southern Illinois working to enhance broadband technology capabilities in rural areas.

From that, he was given the chance to move to Springfield to work on a similar, statewide-focused project. As an "e-Team coordinator" for PCI, Black is overseeing the implementation of broadband plans in 10 regions of the state. "It's all been an amazing opportunity," reflected Black. "I am very fortunate."

Named for the late state Sen. Vince Demuzio (D-Carlinville), the program has provided funding for more than five dozen SIUC juniors and seniors to serve internships with government agencies and offices across southern Illinois. Students interested in the Demuzio Internship Program should contact Institute Visiting Professor John Jackson at jsjackson@siu.edu or (618) 453-4009. *Photo provided.*

YOUTH LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

The Institute hosted a group of more than 30 young African American men from the East St. Louis area to participate in its 9th annual Leadership Weekend.

Speakers included Political Science professor Randy Burnside, Africana Studies director Fr. Joseph Brown, and Dexter Wakefield, an associate professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences.

Additionally, a panel of African American male students, including former Leadership Weekend participants now attending SIU Carbondale, shared about the challenges and rewards of attaining a college education.

"Visiting a college campus is inspirational to these young men," said Institute-based University Professor Linda Baker, the event's organizer. "Many of these students have never set foot on a university campus and have now been challenged to work hard to come back as college students themselves."

The weekend focused on issues such as team work, problem-solving, critical thinking, personal responsibility, ethics and the value of giving back to others.

The participants and mentors chose Derrion Wooten (pictured with David



Yepsen), a senior at East St. Louis High School, as the winner of the Paul Simon Leadership and Character Award, which provided him an iPad to be used in pursuit of his higher education.

"Young African American men face huge challenges in their lives," said Institute director David Yepsen. "This program is one of the most important things the Institute does and has a real impact on them. It's great to watch them grow over the years."

STUDENTS MAKE GREAT VOLUNTEERS

The Institute is delighted to provide meaningful experiences to a number of student volunteers, including this semester the service of two law school and two social work students.

Not willing to accept the grueling schedule of law classes, research and writing as enough to fill their days, Joe Cervantez and Nate Rice are volunteering at the Institute on efforts related to Illinois government.

Cervantez is comparing Illinois redistricting laws to other states, such as Florida and California, two states with new, progressive approaches to drawing legislative boundaries that are non-politically based. Rice will be focusing on research for an ethics conference on Illinois government next year.

Two undergraduate students studying social work, Melissa Schwedel and Sarah Miller, gained their required internship by working on social justice issues through the Institute this fall. Both graduate in December. They have conducted research on economic data, transportation issues and fundraising while also gaining hands-on programmatic experience through assisting with the Women in Politics series, an economic development conference and the Women's Law Forum.

Institute program coordinator Emily Burke supervised their research and activities to assure the School of Social Work approved of their internship experience.

"Having bright, energetic students involved at the Institute is a real benefit," said director David Yepsen. "We hope the work will be as beneficial to them as it is to our efforts at improving public policy in our state."

Events in Review

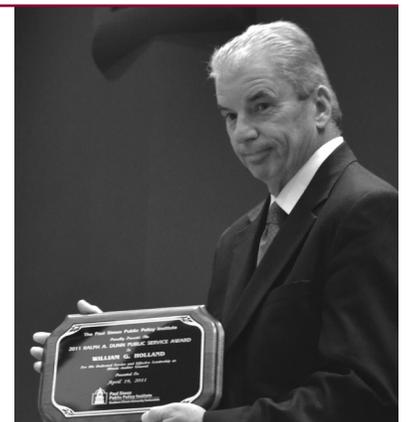
Illinois state Rep. **Patti Bellock** (R-Hinsdale) delivered a well-researched presentation on fiscal and health care related issues facing the state. The lecture is being converted into a Simon Review paper. Bellock came to campus as part of Women's History month. A member since 1999, she has been named "legislator of the year" by at least 12 different organizations and is one of only three Republicans to be named chair of a standing committee in the Democratic controlled House.



The former top cop in Illinois, **Terry Gainer**, who served as director of the Illinois State Police under Gov. Jim Edgar, is now Sergeant-at-Arms of the U.S. Senate. He oversees a staff of 1,000, and in effect serves as the CEO of the Senate. Additionally, Gainer sits on a three-person board directing the U.S. Capitol Police Force. Gainer visited campus in the spring to deliver a keynote address on security issues facing members of Congress in the wake of the Tucson shooting of U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords. Gainer also spent time in the classroom and meeting with students and faculty in small settings. He also met with local Congressional staff members.



The state's top fiscal watchdog, Auditor General **Bill Holland**, was presented the Ralph A. Dunn Public Service Award during his appearance on the SIUC campus this spring. His presentation centered on Illinois' troubled financial situation and recent state government history leading to it. Holland spent time in the classroom and visited with students and faculty during his visit to campus.



Bill Atwood, an SIUC alumnus responsible for investing more than \$10 billion of state retiree pension funds, visited campus to provide details about public pension systems in Illinois. A native of DuQuoin, Atwood earned his bachelor's degree in political science in 1982 before going to work for U.S. Sen. Charles Percy (R-IL). Atwood visited with business students and faculty during his return to his alma mater, including a sentimental visit to Pagliai's Pizza, where he worked as a deliveryman during his student days. *Photo provided.*





Eugene Trani, a former SIUC history professor who went on to a distinguished career in higher education administration, returned to campus to share lessons learned in “town and gown” relationships during his nearly 20-year tenure as president of Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition to his evening lecture, Trani led a luncheon discussion on a Simon Review paper he authored covering Paul Simon’s early political career. His lecture also helped set the tone of discussions in Carbondale’s open mayoral race just a few weeks later.



Just a few days after the 10th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Institute hosted **John Andrews**, the director of counterintelligence for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He led a large group of students, faculty and the public in a discussion about national security. Andrews, a 1986 SIUC graduate, was appointed to his current position in August 2010, coming from the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He also visited Carbondale High School’s Honors Government Course and visited numerous classes on campus during his first return to his alma mater since graduating.



Dan Long, the long-time executive director of the state’s respected Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, delivered a luncheon speech on Illinois’ fiscal outlook and related issues such as taxes, pension funds and revenue matters. Long’s commission provides the General Assembly with non-partisan reports and analysis to support legislative decision making and long-term planning. He also spoke to an upper-division public policy seminar course and taped a segment for WSIU-TV during his campus visit. *Photo provided.*

Visit www.paulsimoninstitute.org to learn about upcoming events or to view videos of these and other past speakers hosted by the Institute.

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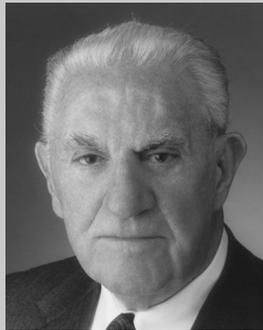
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Institute Mourns Loss of Board Member and Major Benefactor



John White, the former president of Midland Manufacturing in suburban Chicago who headed the Better Government Association for a number of years, passed away July 23. He was 92.

A long-time advocate for honest, open government, White befriended Paul Simon and supported his ascension in Illinois and national politics. White was a proud member of the Simon Institute's board of counselors, being personally named to that body by Simon at its inception.

White was a generous benefactor of numerous organizations, including the Paul Simon Institute.

Two friends of White established the John J. White Lecture Series in 1997 to allow the Institute to host municipal and state government leaders on campus for interaction with students and the public. Past speakers in that series have included Illinois Senate President John Cullerton, Illinois Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno and Illinois House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, among others. The donors commented at the time, “We want to honor someone who has simply been an outstanding citizen and does not get the attention that many others receive.”

The Institute is grateful for investments in its work from organizations as diverse as AFSCME Council 31 and Pepsi MidAmerica. Leaders of both organizations recognize the valuable contributions Paul Simon's living legacy makes to our region, our state and our nation. We are thankful for the hundreds of gifts the Institute receives. Please remember it in your end of year giving.



CIVIC EDUCATION: WE CAN DO BETTER

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Chico listed four things our schools should do to address the need for more civics education:

- teach more courses on civics-related topics;
- host discussions with students on current events;
- provide service learning programs;
- encourage student government to be active participants in their schools and communities.

“I believe what you know affects what you do,” said Chico. He pointed to figures showing dismal voter turnout during elections, including the most recent Chicago mayoral election, in which he was a candidate. He tied the two issues together—voter turnout suffers in great part because of a lack of civic education.

He also lauded the Institute for its focus on taking action from gatherings like these.

“So I feel very strongly that we have to be activists on this subject, not just come here and talk back to one another and have discussions; we have to do something with what we learn, which is basically the heart and the premise of the Paul Simon Institute,” said Chico.

Making a meaningful contribution to the state of civics education in Illinois is what compelled Institute director David Yepsen and Marc Kiehna, the Monroe/Randolph Counties Regional Superintendent of Schools, to launch the idea of a southern Illinois conference on civics education.

Kiehna said he believes that if teachers and school officials focus “on the positive side of democracy and how we can make changes in our world,” the outcome will have a positive impact on students. He does not like the negative political discourse and vitriol often found today.

“We need to get back to the core principles of a democracy -- where we hear what people are saying,” he said.

Participants learned cutting-edge and successful approaches to address civics education in schools from Shawn Healy of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation and Jill Bass of the Mikva Challenge program. The two shared insights into best practices



Gery Chico, chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education, served as the keynote speaker for the civic education conference attended by scores of educators in southern Illinois.

for engaging young people in civics as a way to help them learn and to foster responsible citizenship as they enter adulthood. The presentations, coupled with a panel discussion featuring two southern Illinois teachers who are active in civic education initiatives in their schools, were encouraging to the teachers and administrators in attendance.

Panel member Jamie Nash Mayberry, a history teacher at Shawnee High School, shared her class experience in garnering support for a local project focused on the area’s levee system along the Mississippi River. She said the students learned that through writing letters to the editor, gaining media coverage and making contacts with government officials, they could generate change and positive steps toward addressing concerns.

An interactive afternoon session headed by Suzanne Schmitz, an institute volunteer and retired law school professor, and Jan Waggoner, SIUC’s Director of Teacher Education, allowed participants to share with one another their own best practices as well as voice common concerns and challenges in providing civic education to their students.

Schmitz will author a Simon Review paper examining civic education in Illinois to help educators decide how best to use their resources.

Institute Lauded by Southern Illinoisan

The Institute received a “Thumbs Up” on the Opinion Page of the Southern Illinoisan newspaper on March 4, 2011.

It was awarded “to the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at SIUC, a world-class think tank which continues to provide real-life, understandable analysis of Illinois’ most important issues and voter behavior while still bringing in top-flight, expert speakers to Carbondale. The institute also provided an excellent resource for the media-public and privately owned-and therefore to the public, through polling and opinion sampling leading up to the November elections. Further, the director of the institute, Iowa native David Yepsen, has proven a worthy and accessible successor to Sen. Paul Simon and Mike Lawrence, two of Illinois’ best political minds. We think the late senator would be very pleased with the public service still being provided in his name.”

KATSINAS SPENDS SABBATICAL AT SIMON INSTITUTE

Stephen Katsinas, a two-degree alumnus of SIU Carbondale, made an offer we couldn't refuse: He volunteered to spend his sabbatical from the University of Alabama at the Paul Simon Institute in exchange for our putting him to work.

"Steve is one of the foremost experts on national higher education access and funding issues and I was delighted to be able to accept his offer," said visiting professor John Jackson, a former teacher and mentor to Katsinas. "His expertise is sought after by educational policy leaders across the nation and it was just very generous of him to offer to spend his time with us."

During his sabbatical, Katsinas hosted two events on campus and provided his expertise to students through classroom and small group visits. Katsinas was the featured speaker at a "Pizza and Politics" session on higher education funding in Illinois and delivered a major address on the legacy of Delyte Morris, SIU's transformational president from 1948-1970.

Katsinas, a professor of higher education and director of the Education Policy Center at the U of A's Tuscaloosa campus, earned a master's in history and a PhD in higher education, both from SIUC. His wife, Rene', also holds her master's and PhD from SIU.

"I appreciate the opportunity to spend my sabbatical working at the Simon Institute," said Katsinas.

"In addition to providing quiet time for reflection, restoration, and writing, it has been great to reconnect to the beautiful nature that lies in Little Egypt," he continued. "Even more important has been the opportunity to reconnect with the wonderful people here--people who taught me how to be a professor."

Among those who influenced Katsinas were professors Jackson, Howard Allen,



Donald Detwiler, Browning Carrott, Emil Spees, and Vincent Lacey. He also had the opportunity to get to know retired faculty member and SIUC historian Bob Harper.

In reflecting on his sabbatical, he asked, "From what better place could one contemplate serious writing about access to U.S. higher education than to be where Delyte W. Morris led efforts to build literally from scratch a major university?"

WOMEN IN POLITICS

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address for the Morton-Kenney Public Affairs Lecture Series.

Following Whitman's appearance, the Institute hosted several others in the Women in Politics Series, including Illinois Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon, TV news reporter Dana Jay and Jackson County Republican leader Terri Bryant.

Simon and Bryant spoke about the unique challenges and rewards facing women who run for public office. Jay provided an insider's view on how to best prepare for media interviews and what a reporter is looking for in covering a story.

Additional speakers in the Women in Politics Series are being scheduled for the spring 2012.

Visit our website to watch for new programs at www.paulsimoninstitute.org.



Illinois Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon was the featured speaker at a "Pizza and Politics" session on Women in Politics.



STAFF NEWS: COMINGS AND GOINGS

There are a number of staff changes at the Simon Institute. **Christina Rich** (top left) ends her nearly 30 years at SIU Carbondale this fall. She leaves us after having spent eight years coordinating logistics for Simon Institute events and serving as a key point person for scores of student ambassadors and interns.

Mason Sloan, an SIUC graduate who spent a number of years as a Simon Institute Ambassador volunteering at events, is one of many students who valued the support and care shown by Rich.

“She has helped me time and time again with not only school-related, professional issues but with personal ones as well,” said Sloan. “I have come to rely on her guidance, and trust in her.”

Before joining the Institute staff in 2003, Rich spent 13 years working in the SIU Arena director’s office, three years in the Chancellor’s Office with John Guyon and three years in the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office with John Jackson. But her time working for the university began as a student employee, as she worked throughout her undergraduate experience, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in psychology in 1982.

A replacement for Rich is anticipated being in place at the beginning of 2012.

The Institute also formally welcomed **Emily Burke** (center left) into a permanent position at the Simon Institute as program coordinator.

“We are delighted to bring Emily aboard in a permanent position,” said Institute director David Yepsen. “She will be heading up our civic education efforts, developing programs, and leading our student workers.”

Burke, who earned her master’s in public administration from SIUC, began working for the Institute as a graduate assistant and continued on a variety of grant-funded positions during the past several years.

Finally, a new graduate research fellowship was inaugurated this fall.

Emily Carroll (bottom left), a doctoral student in political science from Sandusky, Ohio, will spend the academic year working on the Institute’s statewide and southern Illinois polls, planning for an ethics in government conference to be held in 2012, and assisting University Communications with applied research on higher education policy issues.

The Paul Simon Graduate Research Fellowship will be paid through non-state funds from the Institute’s endowment proceeds.



INSTITUTE HONORS TRAILBLAZING LEGISLATOR THROUGH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

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Historian Pamela A. Smoot, a university clinical assistant professor, along with students Michara T. Canty, and Andrew S. Barbero as research assistants, spent several months looking into Lane’s life and legacy. The Institute will release Smoot’s paper on Lane’s life in the coming weeks.

Records indicate there were only 10 free blacks in Holmes County, Miss., while Lane was a child, and Smoot believes Lane was born into slavery. As a youngster, Lane spent time around a nearby Union Army camp, where he befriended a Union Army colonel, she said. The colonel, whose last name was Lyons, stayed in Mississippi during the early years of Reconstruction and asked Lane’s mother if he could take her young son when he returned to Illinois. Lane’s mother agreed to the proposal on the promise her son would receive an education, Smoot said.

“He is one of SIU’s success stories whose story has not been told,” Smoot said. “He deserves his rightful place in SIU’s history, the history of the state of Illinois, and the medical profession.”

A preference is that internship recipients will be minority students and they can be from any field of study. The internship will provide students opportunities that embody Lane’s legacy, said Smoot, who speaks of Lane as a “change agent.”

Rita Cheng, Chancellor of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, noted that Lane’s story underscored the university’s rich history and dedication to diversity and instilled pride for the whole campus. Many of today’s students, she said, could relate to Lane’s story of a first-generation college student seeking to improve his life through higher education.

“Alexander Lane’s story is one of dedication and perseverance and it is an inspiration to all of us,” said Cheng.

Baughman said it was particularly fitting, given Paul Simon’s dedication to civil rights and diversity issues, that the Simon Institute hosts the Alexander Lane Internship.

“Paul Simon would have loved the Alexander Lane story,” Baughman said. “A major factor of his decision to create the institute at SIU Carbondale was to work with students who were first generation, disadvantaged or minorities.”

For more information about the Alexander Lane Internship Program, please contact Institute associate director Matt Baughman at (618) 453-4001 or baughman@siu.edu.

PAUL SIMON BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED

After spending several weeks combing through the Paul Simon Archives at Morris Library and countless hours reading and analyzing Simon's voluminous writings, John Jackson's efforts are paying off. The SIU Press has recently accepted his book manuscript containing a collection of Paul Simon's best writings.

"This book will remind us old-timers just why we appreciated Paul Simon—it will highlight his keen insight, his forward-thinking and his expertise on many of the issues of importance during his 40 years in elected office and beyond," said Jackson, a visiting professor at the Institute. "But more importantly, it will bring Paul Simon's writings and thinking alive for today's young people, many of whom never heard of a *Senator* Paul Simon."

The Simon Institute and SIU Press hope to have the book published by early 2012.



The Institute was pleased to help the SIUC School of Journalism re-launch a five-day camp for high school students this summer, which brought 16 students interested in journalism to campus for five days with major support from the Illinois Press Foundation. School of Journalism Director William Freivogel and journalism professor William Recktenwald were instrumental to organizing the event, which was the first of its kind in several decades for SIUC. Institute Director David Yepsen and visiting professor John Jackson were speakers during the week. Photo provided.

SIMON INSTITUTE CONDUCTS FOURTH ANNUAL STATEWIDE POLL

The Simon Institute's fourth annual statewide polling produced a number of insightful results on major policy issues and gave us a flavor for the upcoming presidential primary contests.

Questions covered topics as diverse as illegal immigration, the influence of the Tea Party, the state budget, reform measures and preferences on presidential candidates. The results provide citizens, policy-makers and academic researchers with objective information about trends and issues facing our state.

"Conducting a serious and non-partisan poll that provides good, useful information to all of us, but especially to lawmakers, is an important public service," said Institute director David Yepsen. "The Simon Institute Poll is respected for its reliability in judging the opinions of citizens in our state."

Yepsen noted that as part of a research-intensive university, the Institute is pleased to involve faculty and students in drafting and testing the polling survey.

"It enriches the educational value for the faculty and students," said Yepsen.

The survey of 1,000 registered Illinois voters has a three percentage-point margin for error and was conducted October 11-16. It was paid for with non-tax dollars.

Faculty and students from the university's Department of Political Science were involved in the creation of the poll.

A sampling of the survey results is included here, but the full results can be found online at www.paulsimoninstitute.org or by requesting copies by mail by calling 618/453-4009.

A Sampling of the Poll Results

On the Presidential Race:

In a series of hypothetical head-to-head matchups against four of his leading Republican challengers, President Obama did best against Texas Gov. Rick Perry and least well against former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney. The GOP challenger with the highest percentage was Romney; the one with the lowest percentage was Texas Congressman Ron Paul.

Candidate	GOP Vote	Obama Vote
Mitt Romney	38.5%	46.1%
Herman Cain	34.0%	46.3%
Rick Perry	32.8%	50.8%
Ron Paul	30.3%	49.3%

On the Illinois budget situation:

For the first time, majorities approve of two of the revenue-raising measures in the poll: expanding legalized gambling (56.8%) and expanding the sales tax to cover more services as well as goods (50.1%). "Being against taxes is a deeply ingrained American political sentiment," said Charlie Leonard, poll director. "So it is remarkable to see opposition to some of these forms of taxation softening. It is possible that the constant drumbeat of stories on bad state finances may be making people come around to some fiscal realities."



MILEUR PRESIDENTIAL COLLECTION GOES ON THE ROAD

The Union League Club of Chicago was the site of an event celebrating the extensive presidential campaign memorabilia collection of Simon Institute board member and major benefactor, Jerry Mileur.

“We were pleased to acknowledge Jerry’s generosity to the Institute in donating the collection to us,” said Institute Director David Yepsen. “This was a good excuse to call together Paul Simon Institute friends and donors in the Chicago area and relive presidential campaigns of days gone by.”

Mileur donated the collection to the Institute in 2008 and has added to the collection in years since. *Photo by David Kohn/Union League Club.*



BALK LEAVES LEGACY GIFT

Al Balk, who co-authored Paul Simon’s landmark 1964 Harper magazine expose’ on corruption in Illinois government, passed away last year.

He generously left a provision in his will to support the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

“We are grateful to Al not only for his excellent journalism and courage, but for his thinking to honor his friendship with Paul in this way,” said Institute associate director Matt Baughman.

For more information on how to leave the Institute in your will, look for the sample language on page 7 or contact Institute associate director Matt Baughman at 618/ 453-4001 or baughman@siu.edu.

SAVE THE DATE Charlie Cook

Publisher, *Cook Political Report*

Monday, March 26, 2012 @ 7pm | SIU Student Center Auditorium

Charlie Cook is widely regarded as one of the nation’s leading authorities on U.S. elections and political trends and frequently appears on national television news shows.