

PAUL SIMON PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

.....
YEAR IN REVIEW | 2021



SIU Southern Illinois University
CARBONDALE



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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Dear Friends,

As we reflect on yet another highly productive year for the Paul Simon Institute, I'd like to commend John Shaw and the Institute's staff for not only surviving a second year of pandemic-related challenges, but also for raising the bar higher still over 2020's impressive output. And though this publication is aimed primarily at looking back, I am most excited about looking ahead to this, our Silver Anniversary year!

It's hard for me to believe that it's been 25 years since my parents returned home to southern Illinois and launched what they called their "Do Tank." I'm proud to say that the Paul Simon Institute, over these past two and a half decades, has done a great deal of "Doing" — none of which could have happened without you, our supporters. So, on behalf of the Simon family and the Institute's Board of Counselors, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to celebrating with you throughout this special year ahead!

Cheers,
MARTIN H. SIMON, BOARD CHAIR



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Former Director, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute not only survived another tumultuous year, but also expanded its reach and deepened its influence, even as the pandemic persisted and disquieting threats to our democracy became shockingly evident. Never has the Institute's mission of civil and fact-based discourse been more important, nor has our focus on "Better Politics, Smarter Government" been more urgent.

Last year was challenging, busy, and productive. We continued our commitment to support American democracy, strengthen Illinois, and inspire students.

Even with the considerable constraints imposed by COVID-19, we have been able to elevate the Institute and expand our reach. We hosted 34 live events via Zoom as part of our Understanding Our New World, Meet the Mayor, and Illinois Authors series. These programs attracted thousands of live viewers and tens of thousands of viewers on YouTube. In the last year, our virtual programs have been watched throughout Illinois and in 11 countries and 42 other states and territories.

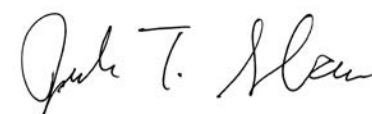
While I enjoyed all of our conversations in 2021, some of my favorite guests were:

- John Allen, president of Brookings Institution
- Don Harmon, president of the Illinois Senate
- Tammy Duckworth, U.S. senator from Illinois
- Elizabeth Hinton, history professor at Yale University
- Jim Bullard, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
- Nicole Perloth, cybersecurity reporter for *The New York Times*
- Candice Millard, historian and biographer
- Stavros Lambrinidis, European Union ambassador to the U.S.
- Anne-Marie Slaughter, CEO of New America
- Ruth Simmons, president of Prairie View A&M University and former president of Smith and Brown
- Andrew Bacevich, president of the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft
- Elizabeth Shackelford, senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- Margo Jefferson, author of *Negroland*
- Daniel Biss, mayor of Evanston, Illinois
- Mboka Mwilambwe, mayor of Bloomington, Illinois

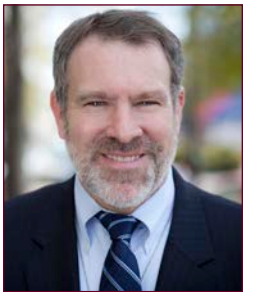
In 2021, we launched the Paul Simon-Jim Edgar Statesmanship Award, the Future of Illinois Project, and a podcast called Simoncast. The Simon-Edgar Award celebrates statesmanship in state and local government in Illinois. The Future of Illinois Project is designed to help policymakers, scholars, and Illinois residents take a long-term view of the Prairie State. Simoncast is the official podcast of the Institute and allows us to share our virtual programs in a format that is most convenient for many who are interested in public policy.

We will celebrate our 25th anniversary in 2022 by honoring our past and looking to the future. We will continue high-level discussions, including those that focus on threats to our democracy in the United States. The Institute will also deepen our commitment to Illinois during our anniversary year, refining programs such as the Renewing Illinois student summit, the Meet the Mayor and Illinois Authors conversations series, and the Simon-Edgar Statesmanship Award.

We are very proud of the work and accomplishments of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute during its first 25 years. Your support keeps the legacy of Paul Simon alive and vibrant. We are deeply grateful.



JOHN T. SHAW, INSTITUTE DIRECTOR





WIDE-RANGING CONVERSATIONS

Representatives from Ameren Illinois visited the Institute in October after we received a grant from the company's Ameren Cares program to expand the Illinois Authors series.

UNDERSTANDING OUR NEW WORLD

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to drive global public policy as well as the way we work and gather on our Carbondale campus. We continued the Understanding Our New World series of virtual conversations to learn how fundamental political and cultural changes continue to shape our collective future.

We hosted 26 Understanding Our New World conversations this year with a diverse array of speakers covering a wide range of topics, including climate change, U.S. foreign and domestic policy, global diplomacy, cybersecurity, philanthropy, racial justice, higher education, and poetry.

We are continuing this series in 2022. Visit paulsimoninstitute.org/events to see who we'll be speaking with and register to join us.



Sharon Bush
Executive Director of the
Grand Victoria Foundation



Timothy Lynch
Professor of American Politics at the
University of Melbourne, Australia



John Allen
President of the
Brookings Institution



Edward Larson
Pepperdine University Professor,
Pulitzer Prize-winning Historian



Alexis Coe
Presidential Historian, Author



Don Harmon
Illinois Senate President



Barbara Bodine
Director of the Institute
for the Study of Diplomacy



Elizabeth Hinton
Yale Professor, Author, Historian



Jim Bullard
President and CEO of the
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis



Angela Jackson
Illinois Poet Laureate



John Gaddis
Yale Professor, Historian,
Pulitzer Prize-winning Biographer



Susana Mendoza
Illinois Comptroller



Nicole Perloth
The New York Times
Cybersecurity Reporter



Audra Wilson
President and CEO of the
Shriver Center on Poverty Law



Candice Millard
Author, Historian



Tim Knight
President and CEO of the
McCormick Foundation



Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz
Illinois State Representative
for the 17th District



Amy McGrath
Retired Marine Corps Lieutenant
Colonel, Former Senate Candidate



Andrew Bacevich
President of the Quincy Institute
for Responsible Statecraft



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President of Forefront



Tammy Duckworth
U.S. Senator from Illinois



Elizabeth Shackelford
Senior Fellow at the Chicago
Council on Global Affairs



Stavros Lambrinidis
European Union Ambassador
to the U.S.



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 **YouTube**
UNDERSTANDING OUR NEW WORLD
conversations can be found on our YouTube channel
[YOUTUBE.COM/PAULSIMONINSTITUTE](https://www.youtube.com/paulsimoninstitute)

MEET THE MAYOR



GETTING TO KNOW ILLINOIS' MUNICIPAL LEADERS

Institute Director John Shaw sits down with mayors from around Illinois to learn about their unique communities and their innovative leadership. We talked with mayors from all over the state in 2021, from north of Chicago to deep downstate.

We learned how mayors from big cities to small towns are grappling with the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, how they are bringing economic development to their cities, and the bold initiatives that set their towns apart from the other municipalities in the state.



Jim Ardis
Mayor of Peoria



Julie Moore Wolfe
Mayor of Decatur



Will Stephens
Mayor of Murphysboro



Mboka Mwilambwe
Mayor of Bloomington



Daniel Biss
Mayor of Evanston

ILLINOIS AUTHORS

MEETING THE WRITERS THAT BRING THE PRAIRIE STATE TO LIFE

We launched Illinois Authors in August to create a statewide venue for book events and author discussions. This past year, we hosted three author discussions virtually over Zoom.

As the series develops, we envision it will consist of both virtual and in-person conversations, with public events in Carbondale, Edwardsville, Springfield, Chicago, and other Illinois communities. A grant from Ameren Illinois will be instrumental as we expand the series.



Robert Hartley
author of
Paul Simon: The Political Journey of an Illinois Original and *Paul Powell of Illinois: A Lifelong Democrat*



Kristin Hoganson
author of
The Heartland: An American History



Margo Jefferson
author of
Negroland: A Memoir

ILLINOIS 101 RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Want to dive deeper into Illinois history, culture, or politics?

Download *Illinois 101*, a collection of essential reading recommendations from state leaders, at

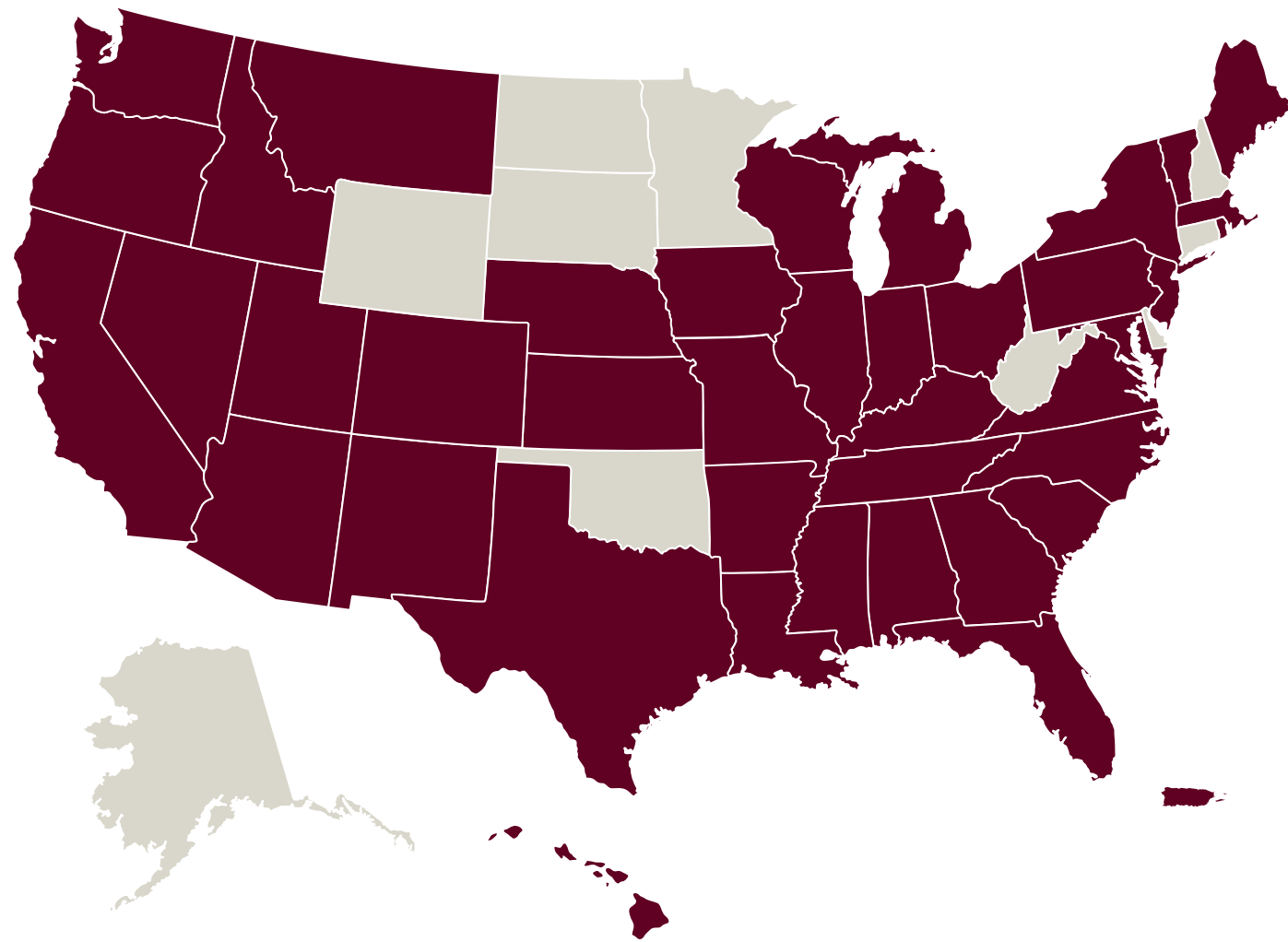
[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/ILLINOIS101](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/illinois101)

OR contact us for a hard copy.



Watch **Meet the Mayor** and **Illinois Authors** conversations on our YouTube channel
[YOUTUBE.COM/PAULSIMONINSTITUTE](https://youtube.com/paulsimoninstitute)

VIRTUAL EVENT REACH



42 STATES &
TERRITORIES

Data collected December 2021

11

- 1 AUSTRALIA
- 2 BRAZIL
- 3 CANADA
- 4 DENMARK
- 5 ENGLAND
- 6 HONDURAS
- 7 INDIA
- 8 ITALY
- 9 SOMALIA
- 10 SOUTH KOREA
- 11 UNITED STATES

COUNTRIES




24,088
 YouTube
VIEWS

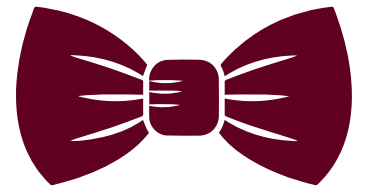
3,700+
AUDIENCE
REACHED




660
PODCAST
DOWNLOADS
332
USERS

Since podcast launched in September 2021

SIMONCAST



We launched a weekly podcast to give you more ways to listen to our wide-ranging, civil conversations.

LISTEN WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS.





BETTER POLITICS, SMARTER GOVERNMENT

PAUL SIMON-JIM EDGAR STATESMANSHIP AWARD



Institute Director John Shaw attended the August meeting of the Edgar Fellows Program to join former Governor Jim Edgar to announce the recipients of the first Simon-Edgar Award. Pictured from left to right are Shaw, award recipients Sara Wójcicki Jimenez and Chad Hays, and Governor Edgar.

The inaugural Paul Simon-Jim Edgar Statesmanship Award recognized 11 Republican members of the Illinois General Assembly who supported a critical budget package in July 2017 in the interest of fiscal solvency for Illinois.

These Republican lawmakers joined with Democrats to override then-Governor Bruce Rauner's veto of a budget compromise. The vote ended a two-year stalemate that tarnished Illinois' reputation, damaged schools, battered the state's credit rating, and led to about \$15 billion in unpaid bills.

The budget that emerged allowed Illinois to avoid further downgrading of its debt and ensured that the state government would resume regular operations. The 2017 budget paved the way for subsequent fiscal progress as reflected in the upgrades in 2021 to Illinois' credit rating by Moody's Investor Service and S&P Global Ratings.



The decision to support this agreement was courageous, consequential, and effective. While several of the Republican lawmakers received accolades from their constituents in response to their votes, many were sharply criticized and later faced primary opposition. Several opted to retire after casting the critical budget vote in 2017.

The Republican lawmakers who cast the decisive votes in 2017 were:

- Representative Steve Andersson of Geneva
- Representative Terri Bryant of Murphysboro
- Representative Mike Fortner of West Chicago
- Representative Norine Hammond of Macomb
- Representative David Harris of Arlington Heights
- Representative Chad Hays of Catlin
- Representative Sara Wójcicki Jimenez of Springfield
- Representative Bill Mitchell of Decatur
- Representative Reggie Phillips of Charleston
- Representative Mike Unes of Pekin
- Senator Dale Righter of Mattoon

Illinois residents, including political, academic, and business leaders, nominated dozens of state, city, and county officials for the inaugural Simon-Edgar Award. Look for nominations for the 2022 award to open in the spring at paulsimoninstitute.org/SimonEdgarAward.

FUTURE OF ILLINOIS PROJECT

We launched the Future of Illinois Project to address a serious problem that affects government at all levels: the difficulty of focusing on the future. We are convening demographers, historians, political scientists, social activists, futurists, and business leaders to peer out over the horizon and assess fundamental challenges facing Illinois from now until 2050.

We have invited Illinoisans to submit essays that outline the state's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and offer a specific action agenda for the state. We are seeking input from constitutional officers, members of the General Assembly, mayors, academics, business and labor leaders, philanthropists, and residents including high school and college students. We will compile these responses in a *State of Illinois Report* that will provide an important benchmark for discussions about the future.



Our work on the Future of Illinois Project has just begun. **Want to get involved?**
Visit PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/FUTURE OR email PAULSIMONINSTITUTE@SIU.EDU

SIMON REVIEW

We published three *Simon Review* research papers this year.

The Politics of Public Budgeting in Illinois (Second Edition): John Jackson and John Foster updated their important treatise on the Illinois budgeting process. New research reinforced their original findings that despite political messaging, downstate receives more from the public coffers than it gives.

The Effects of Legalization of Recreational Cannabis in Illinois: Stephanie Chambers-Baltz, 2020-2021 Celia M. Howard Fellow, investigated the impact of the state's recreational cannabis legalization on public health and social equity.

Exit Essay: A Reflection on More Than 50 Years of Media Coverage in the Illinois Statehouse: Steve Brown, the longtime spokesman for former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan, wrote a personal account of his 50-plus years working in Statehouse news reporting and public relations.

Read the reports at
PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/PUBLICATIONS

SNEAK PEEK:
THE RENEWING ILLINOIS SUMMIT
RETURNS IN 2022.

Is the notion of "One Illinois" a reasonable hope, a noble aspiration, or an impossible dream?

We are inviting college students to help us examine this theme and other important questions later this year at the Institute's Renewing Illinois Summit.



For more information, visit
PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/RENEWINGIL

FUTURE PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERS



SIU SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
 CARBONDALE PAUL SIMON
 PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

Institute Ambassadors have remained active throughout the pandemic, although this photo was taken in 2020 before COVID-19 came to southern Illinois. The Registered Student Organization of Institute-affiliated students hosts annual events and helps spread the word on campus about the Institute and its programs.

INTERNSHIPS



2021 Springfield interns (from left to right) Dashae Newell, Lauren Davis, Stephon Belt, Isaac Ludington, and Isaac Shaw are pictured in the capital.

2021 SPRINGFIELD INTERNS

Dashae Newell
Alexander Lane Intern
 Major: Political Science
 Illinois Senate

Stephon Belt
Gene Callaban Intern
 Major: Paralegal Studies
 Illinois House of Representatives

Isaac Shaw
Gene Callaban Intern
 Major: Political Science
 Illinois House of Representatives

Lauren Davis
Barb Brown Intern
 Major: Political Science
 Illinois House of Representatives

Isaac Ludington
Barb Brown Intern
 Major: Political Science
 Illinois Senate

Jerry Dominguez
Latino Heritage Intern
 Major: Political Science
 Illinois Senator Terri Bryant's Office



(From left to right) Jerry Dominguez, Latino Heritage Intern; Isaac Ludington, Barb Brown Intern; and Stephon Belt, Gene Callaban Intern, pose in the Illinois Statehouse in Springfield during the spring legislative session.

The spring 2021 Illinois legislative session was like no other. Our interns arrived in Springfield in January, in the middle of a statewide COVID-19 surge. They started the session tele-legislating, attending virtual committee hearings while staff had limited access to the Capitol. After vaccines became widely available and cases decreased in the spring, the interns joined their colleagues at the Capitol.

The interns were present to see the once-a-decade redistricting process and watched the election of a new Speaker of the House for the first time in nearly 40 years – made even more historic as Chris Welch became Illinois' first Black House Speaker. By the time the session ended at the beginning of June, the interns had witnessed the General Assembly consider more than 7,500 bills and resolutions, more than 640 of which were sent to the governor.

“The [internship] helped me enter rooms and shake hands with people who gave me great advice and words of encouragement about a future career in public policy.”

—DASHAE NEWELL
 ALEXANDER LANE INTERN

VINCE DEMUZIO GOVERNMENTAL INTERNS

Spring 2021
 TABITHA KOCH

Tabitha Koch was the spring 2021 Vince Demuzio Intern. She continued working in the Carbondale City Manager's Office in the spring after serving in that office as the Demuzio Intern in the fall of 2020. She graduated in May 2021 with a degree in political science.

Fall 2021
 FRANCESCA BURKETT

Francesca Burkett was the fall 2021 Vince Demuzio Intern. She worked in the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office, helping to research and write policy regarding juvenile delinquency and truancy. She is majoring in history and in geology with a specialization in geophysics. She was selected as the 2021 SIU Lincoln Academy of Illinois student laureate and received the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Award.

Learn how you can support our students at

[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/SUPPORT](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/support)

CONVERSATIONS WITH A COUNCILMAN

The Institute's Student Ambassadors host an event every spring semester. In 2021, Ambassadors Tabitha Koch and Selenka Mortenson hosted a virtual conversation with Carbondale City Councilman Jeff Dougherty. They talked about Dougherty's career and his insights into the workings of city government.



Carbondale City Councilman Jeff Dougherty, *left*, and Institute Ambassador Tabitha Koch during the Conversations with a Councilman virtual event in February.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Madison Peterson <i>Barb Brown Memorial Scholarship</i> Senior studying social work	Jarrett Jones <i>David Yepsen Director's Award</i> Senior studying political science	Elijah Stepe <i>Edwin D. Phillips Debate Team Scholarship</i> Junior studying elementary education	Chelsey Varela <i>Jeanne Hurley Simon Scholarship</i> Junior studying criminology and criminal justice	Dashae Newell <i>Mike Lawrence Scholarship</i> Senior studying political science
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CELIA M. HOWARD FELLOWS

2020-2021 FELLOWS



Stephanie Chambers-Baltz



Jerricha Griffin

Stephanie Chambers-Baltz and Jerricha Griffin were the Institute's 2020-2021 fellows. Chambers-Baltz, from St. Paul, Minnesota, is a doctoral candidate in counseling psychology. Griffin, from East St. Louis, Illinois, is pursuing a master's in social work and a law degree.

Both fellows worked with Institute Professor Dr. Linda Baker on the Rural Health Summit, a collaborative project with the SIU Medicine Department of Population Science and Policy, SIU Medicine Center for Rural Health, and the University of Chicago School of Public Health. Their work in 2020 and 2021 built on the 2018 Rural Health Summit and investigated how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted rural Illinois. Policy briefs and public forums focused on public health systems, child development, housing, nutrition, economic development, mental health and addiction, and aging populations. Chambers-Baltz published a research paper in the Institute's *Simon Review* series titled *The Effects of Legalization of Recreational Cannabis in Illinois*. Griffin researched how racism and misogyny in the child welfare system affect Black mothers.

2021-2022 FELLOWS



Chloë Goldbach



Hannah Crane

Chloë Goldbach and Hannah Crane joined the Institute in the fall as Celia M. Howard Fellows.

Goldbach is from Gainesville, Florida and is a Ph.D. candidate in counseling psychology. She has a B.A. and an M.A. in psychology, a B.A. in mechanical engineering, and an M.S. in biomedical engineering. Her research is looking at legislation related to criminalization, legalization, and decriminalization of sex work. She is reviewing current and proposed legislation in Illinois, the U.S., and other countries, and is using U.S. public opinion polling to assess how support for legalization or decriminalization of sex work has changed over time. Goldbach's research paper will explore the financial and public health implications of sex work legislation, including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Crane is from Martinsville, Illinois and is a doctoral student in sociology. She has a B.A. in psychology and an M.S. in counseling with a specialization in school counseling. She is researching voluntary sterilization policies and has been reviewing the history of voluntary sterilization. She is also looking at how Illinois' policies compare to those in other states, and seeking to identify reasons behind policy differences, including types of hospital systems and rural/urban differences.

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[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/SUPPORT](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/support)

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[PAULSIMONINSTITUTE.ORG/SUBSCRIBE](https://paulsimoninstitute.org/subscribe)

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Susan H. & David L. Wilson

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Joseph A. Mulcrone
Elliott C. & Dorothy D. Murray
Brenda J. & J. Hurley H. Myers
Deborah M. & James E. Nash
Zachary S. Novak
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