

## **Illinois Humanities Council Press Release**

The Illinois Humanities Council announces that Randall Norris has been named to the 2003-2004 *Road Scholars* Speakers Bureau. Norris is Associate Professor of English and American Cultural Studies at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon, Illinois and teaches courses in English and the humanities. For the Road Scholars program, Norris offers two 45-minute slide and multi-media presentations, “Women of Coal” and “Highway 61: Faces of the Delta, Voices of the South” based upon award-winning photographic oral histories and essays, developed in collaboration with acclaimed photographer Jean Philippe-Cypres. The exhibition “Highway 61” has been exhibited at the Mississippi State Capitol, Mississippi Public Television, and is now on permanent display at Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale, Mississippi. “Women of Coal” has been published as a book by the University Press of Kentucky and is permanently displayed at the Cumberland Museum in Cumberland, Kentucky.

*Road Scholars*, the Illinois Humanities Council Speakers Bureau, allows Illinois non-profit organizations the opportunity to offer high-quality, public humanities programs to local audiences, free of charge. Illinois’ finest writers, poets, historians, anthropologists and living-history performers travel to communities across the state and present their programs, which educate, entertain, and challenge. *Road Scholars* encourages Illinoisans to reflect upon the human condition from a range of perspectives and offers context for public discussion and dialogue. Eligible non-profit organizations include, but are not limited to historical societies, libraries, senior centers, museums, community colleges, professional groups, and community-based organizations.