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## ICS News On Cultural Issues

Monitor Newspaper

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## ICS provost lecture series speakers to address cultural issues

The Institute for the Study of Culture and Society will present a Spring 1997 Provost's Lecture Series in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Vicki Patraha, English and ICS director, has announced.

The three-lecture series will focus on the theme "Border Crossings: Conversations Across Disciplines and Cultures."

The first talk will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 27 and will feature international performance artist Coco Fusco of Temple University. Other speakers in the series will be Third World scholar Barbara Harlow on April 4 and African-American cultural critic Michael Awkward on April 18.

"Bringing these nationally known scholars and artists to our learning community at Bowling Green marks an attempt to cross the borders between the known and unknown; to gather a group of scholars, artists and individuals who are dedicated to cultural equity and international rights; and to create a potential meeting place for cross-cultural dialogue and alliance," Patraha said.

Fusco, who will appear in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the University Union, will present a documentary history of her past, present and forthcoming work, "Performance and the Power of the

Popular: Cultural Fusion in the Americas."

She is the author of *English Is Broken Here* (1995), a collection of essays on art, media and cultural politics, along with the prize-winning article "The Other History of Intercultural Performance."

Harlow of the University of Texas at Austin will address the topic of new ways of telling stories at the end of the 20th century in relation to human rights reporting and what she calls "committing truth," in "Cultural Struggles in Narrative: Human Rights Reporting and Truth Commissions."

Scholar Michael Awkward of the University of Michigan will speak on "Identity and Cultural Criticism: The Role of the Black Public Intellectual." His talk will address the ways in which our differences and similarities can connect us across communities as well as the risks and necessities of crossing borders (across disciplines, between the academy and the community, and between genders and ethnicities).

All the Provost's Lecture Series events are free and open to the public. For further information, call Jodi Sickler at the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society at 2-0585 or Patraha at 2-0565.