

## Press Release

### **"Blacks Run: An American Stream" initiates 2005-06 Art Lecture Series**

Contact: Geraldine W. Kiefer, Assistant Professor of Art History and Art, Shenandoah University, 540-545-7323; 540-247-7093; gkiefer@su.edu

Professor Scott Jost presents a public lecture on Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 7:30 p.m. in Hester Auditorium, Henkel Hall, on Shenandoah University's main campus in Winchester. His presentation, titled "Community Conversation and the Healing of Blacks Run," explores the relationship of a community and a severely degraded stream flowing through its environment. The lecture will be preceded by an opening and reception for the exhibition "Blacks Run: An American Stream" at the Shenandoah Arts Council Gallery, 811 S. Loudoun St., Winchester, from 5 to 7 p.m. The exhibition, up through Oct. 29, is of photographs combined with texts from interviews relevant to the stream flowing through the city of Harrisonburg, Va. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

On Thursday, Oct. 6, Professor Jost will give a companion lecture, "Landscape, Ecology and Land Use." from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Gregory Hall, Room 152. All lecture locations are on the main campus of Shenandoah University. All events are free and open to the public; however, limited seating is available for the Thursday morning lectures.

An associate professor of art at Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Va., Professor Jost has been active in national and regional organizations, served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and for Exhibition and Design Committees, and presented a paper and chaired a session at the 2001 College Art Association conference in Chicago. Professor Jost has exhibited his artwork locally and nationally. His concern with land use, ecology and community led to the publication of his book, *Blacks Run: An American Stream* (The Center for American Places, 1999).

Professor Jost's lectures initiate the Virginia Wojno-Forney Art Lecture Series for 2005-06. The series continues with Women's History Month lectures and exhibitions by Cynthia Fraula-Hahn and Helen Langa in March 2006. Co-sponsoring the Scott Jost events are the Shenandoah University Environmental Studies Program, the university's mass communications department and the Shenandoah Arts Council.

\*\*\*\*\*