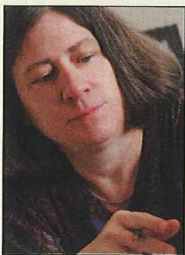


College through a grant he worked on with the Fine Arts Department and Information Technology. His goal is for students to know as many types of music as possible.

"Intellectual curiosity is a skill, a way of being," he says. "The material may not stick with you, but the emotion will."

Marsh, who has performed as a recitalist, chamber pianist, concerto soloist and conductor, has won numerous composition awards, including a 1989 nomination for the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award. He also has been nominated three times for the Roanoke College Dean's Council Exemplary Teaching Award.

Students learn that it takes a village



Dr. Laura O'Toole guides her students in research that could benefit communities around the world.

Her students have worked with villages in Ghana, international communities in the United States and even examined different cultural practices to study their effects on nutrition. She wants students to understand that they can do important work while still undergrads.

"I'm most interested in getting my students excited about being sociologists, doing research they can really be excited about," says O'Toole, associate professor and chair of sociology at Roanoke.

Since joining the College in 2001, O'Toole has continued her scholarly research, participated in numerous workshops, lectures and panels and been nominated twice by students for inclusion in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. She also just completed a three-year term on the curriculum committee, which she chaired last year. In addition, she serves on the internal advisory board for multicultural affairs and, with colleagues, is working to create a gender studies program at the College.

O'Toole is currently working on a revised edition of her co-edited anthology, *Gender Violence: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, to be published by New York University Press. She also was

appointed recently by Residence Life to be a live-in faculty member in a new residence hall opening this fall.

Planting seeds of curiosity in young researchers



Dr. Len Pysh, associate professor of biology, seems to be specializing in growing young researchers.

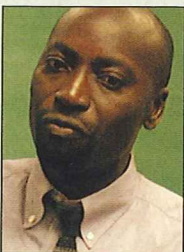
When Pysh arrived at Roanoke College in 1998, he came with a desire to involve younger students in his research so students could have three and half years in the lab instead of just enough time to learn the techniques before graduating.

"I don't want students to just learn techniques," he says. "It's even more important that they also learn how to think scientifically. That's hard; it requires creativity, logic, persistence and patience."

Pysh has received several awards and grants, including a National Institutes of Health Academic Research Enhancement Award, a Seed Grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a National Science Foundation Start-Up Grant. The grants help support his work and that of student researchers.

Ten of the 21 students he has supervised in research projects are already in graduate school in a scientifically related field, including several in medical school.

Turning students' passions into projects



Dr. Joshua Rubongoya says challenging classes and demanding research can help students excel in their studies as well as later in life.

The professor of public affairs has worked with Roanoke students since he joined the College in 1991. A native of Uganda, Rubongoya leads demanding classes and encourages his students to tackle difficult projects that have meaning for them and would ultimately be worthy of publication.

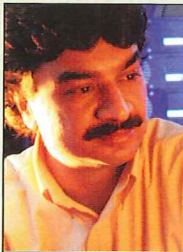
"I want students to be prepared for life after Roanoke College — prepared

academically, intellectually and professionally — and being prepared in those three dimensions is quite a complex undertaking," he says.

But he's doing it. Rubongoya has won five nominations for the Dean's Council Exemplary Teaching Award and recognition as a Faculty Scholar for 2000-2003 as well as other awards, including a Fulbright. In 2003, Rubongoya also was named the Student Government Association's "Outstanding Faculty Leader" and the Student Life Council's "Outstanding Faculty Advisor."

Rubongoya has authored a number of scholarly reviews and has a book coming out soon, called *Political Legitimacy in Uganda: Challenges to Democratic Consolidation*. He also has written a chapter on political leadership in a new book, called *Democratic Transitions in East Africa*.

Decoding a digital world



Dr. Anil Shende guides students in researching aspects of computer science that they cannot learn in a classroom.

"Computer science has grown so much that you can't possibly cover everything in four years," says Shende, associate professor of computer science. "Some of it has to be learned by yourself, some in graduate school, which is almost a necessity at this point."

Shende, who specializes in parallel and distributed computing and algorithms, helps his students with projects that have included game theory and error-detecting codes. Many of their projects have won recognitions — just as Shende's work has. He has received several awards and grants, including a National Science Foundation grant that underwrites student research and helped the College obtain a 64-processor cluster.

Shende recently was awarded the Dean's Council Exemplary Professional Development Award. He spent his 2001-2002 sabbatical at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science in Pilani, India, teaching a course on parallel computing and working with students on research projects. In September, a paper he co-authored will be presented at the International Symposium on Wireless Communication Systems at the University of Siena, Italy.