"I'm a Jesuit in the university, 
a teacher, a scholar, a humanist 
trying to study and teach history 
from the point of view of the losers 
rather than the winners, 
the poor rather than the rich, 
the peasants rather than the princes. 
I think the modern Jesuit, and Christian, 
is challenged to take a leap of faith 
and believe that God is to be found 
not only in the beauties of the divine 
and human creation but also in the lives 
and sufferings of the poor and outcast 
members of the human race. 
As a teacher, as a scholar in the humanities, 
and as a Jesuit, I pursue an understanding 
of what Dostoyevsky's Father Zossima calls 
'active love' - severe and terrifying, 
entailing hard work and tenacity, 
but close to 'the miraculous power of the Lord.'”

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