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In My Own Words

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*“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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