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May 10, 2005

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### **English Professor's Latest Book Focuses on Christians, Revolutionaries, Outlaws**

SAN LUIS OBISPO – A recently published book by Cal Poly English Professor Robert Inchausti takes a provocative look at the meaning of Christianity, focusing on the “real Christians” -- the revolutionaries and outlaws.

The book, “Subversive Orthodoxy: Outlaws, Revolutionaries, and Other Christians in Disguise,” defends Christian Humanism by examining the way various Christian visionaries have responded to the new, emerging world civilization, Inchausti said. “It finds unexpected commonalities in the work of such different thinkers as Marshall McLuhan, Dorothy Day and Alexander Solzhenitsyn. The book’s thesis is that many of most acute critics of modernity derive from a surprisingly similar set of spiritual premises.

“Christian humanists acknowledge the contributions of classical and secular humanism,” Inchausti said, “however, they caution that these cultural forms can degenerate into excessive individualism or savage collectivism without a recognition of the sacred. Christian humanists value culture but suspect it at the same time -- holding to the transcendent standards embodied in the life of Christ.”

An essay in intellectual history, “Subversive Orthodoxy” is written for serious students and scholars seeking connections among the many avant-garde religious thinkers and artists of our time, Inchausti said.

Richard Rhor, director of the Center for Action and Contemplation, praised the work. “This is an important and brilliant book. Robert Inchausti always says things that I enviously wish I had said myself. But he says it much better, and in a way that is hard to either dismiss or improve. ‘Subversive Orthodoxy’ is the kind of thinking we need to reform Christianity in the true spirit of the Gospels.”

A review on the Amazon.com Web site said, “Throw out all you believe Christianity is and can ever be; dismiss with an imperious wave of the hand all of the Pat Robertsons and Jerry Falwells who falsely claim the name of Christ for their authoritarian projects. Here, in Dr. Inchausti's book, are the real Christians, revolutionaries and outlaws who eat away at the structures of political and psychic oppression and shake the halls of power in church and state, big media and academe.”

Inchausti has been a member of Cal Poly’s English faculty since 1983. “Subversive Orthodoxy” is Inchausti’s fourth book. His previous works include “The Ignorant Perfection of Ordinary People,” “Spitwad Sutras: Classroom Teaching as Sublime Vocation,” and “Thomas Merton’s American Prophecy.” Inchausti is the faculty advisor to the university’s Newman Catholic Center.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1974 and a master’s degree in 1976, both from California State University, Sacramento. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1981.

For more information, contact Inchausti at 756-2862.

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