Emeritus Professor Bill Foster III from New Mexico State University, USA – Semester 2 2016.



Emeritus Professor Foster outside the University of Canterbury Staff Club

Where you have come from and what do you teach?

I am an Emeritus Professor from New Mexico State University in the USA. New Mexico State University is located in Las Cruces, New Mexico. My teaching area is financial accounting.

What interested you in being an Erskine Fellow/Why did you want to come to UC?

I was interested in the Erskine Programme as it enables me to bring my family to a different part of the world and to experience new adventures together. It is wonderful that the programme finds accommodation for us and that we do not have to worry about finding good accommodation in Christchurch.

We wanted to come to UC because we have been here before and have formed friends both inside and outside the university community. My wife especially appreciates the faculty wives' group that meets on Wednesdays.

What have you been doing at UC?

I have been mainly teaching and preparing lectures — for example preparing slides and tutorial materials, taking questions/discussions, lecturing, holding tutorials, preparing examination questions and solutions, and the dreaded marking! The UC lecture halls are equipped with top-level technology and the support provided is amazing. I really like the ability to draw and write on my slides with a pen.

I have also attend as many research presentations as possible. I will soon discuss one of my current research projects as an Erskine presentation hosted by the Department of Accounting and Information Systems.

What have you most enjoyed about your time here at UC/Christchurch?

My wife and I like to country-western dance. We go dancing at the working men's clubs and the country music groups that meet on Sunday afternoons. My family also enjoys the wildlife parks and we have really enjoyed visiting both Orana Wildlife Park and Willowbank Wildlife Reserve. On occasion, I also play bridge at the Christchurch Bridge Club.

The New Zealand people are friendly and helpful. My family feels safe here. I am very pleased to observe that the city and the University have made significant progress in recovering from the earthquakes