

**Sarah Wallace from Duquesne University, USA – Semester 2 2017**



*Sarah hiking near Taylor's Mistake*

**Where you have come from and what do you teach?**

*I am an Associate Professor at in the Speech-Language Pathology Department at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA. At Duquesne University, I teach four courses in our Master's Program including Adults with Aphasia, Neurogenic Communication Disorders, Augmentative and Alternative Communication, as well as Capstone in Evidence-Based Practice. I also serve as the Program Director for the Adult Language and Cognitive Clinic and enjoy working with clinical educators and supporting students in that clinic. Outside of the classroom, I enjoy mentoring student research projects.*

**What interested you in the Erskine Programme/Why did you want to come to UC?**

*I had heard of the Erskine program through UC instructors and colleagues in the States who had travelled here for this wonderful opportunity. I was really excited about the opportunity to learn from instructors and students at a different university. I was eager for the opportunity to live in another country and learn from the people there – particularly in New Zealand. Additionally, I*

*was drawn to learning more about UC's program because of the innovative clinical education practices implemented by the instructors here.*



*Lake Tekapo hike in the snow*

**What have you been doing at UC?**

*This term, I am teaching a course called Complex Communication Disorders. It is a problem-based learning course focused on complex clinical cases similar to realistic clinical caseloads. In the course, I have the opportunity to talk about dementia and, traumatic brain injury as well as augmentative and alternative communication – all topics I am really interested in. During the second term, I will teach a Professional Studies course and cover topics related to ethics and interprofessional education. I am really involved with interprofessional education at Duquesne University so it is exciting to share that information with students here. I am also presenting at multiple research and education seminars during my time at UC. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my research and experiences.*

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

*It is really difficult to think of just one thing. I have really enjoyed getting to know the people and have been fortunate that everyone has been so kind and generous. I am training for the Mt Cook Marathon in September so I have been running all around the city and seeing some of the most interesting places during my runs. I love running in Hagley Park and through the City Centre and even ventured up to Bottle Lake Forest. When I am not teaching or running, I have been going hiking most every chance I get. I love the Port Hills and generally exploring the tracks around that area. I got to hike in the snow at Lake Tekapo and Mt Cook a few weeks ago and it was amazing!*



*10k Race in Sumner with Kate Cook from the Communication Disorders Department*