

Horacio Bown from The University of Chile, Chile: Semester 2 2018

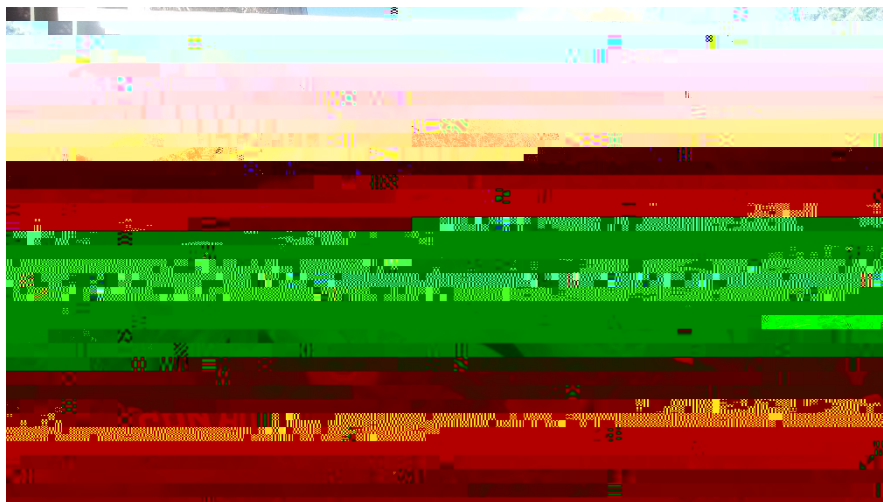
Where have you come from and what do you teach?

I work at the Faculty of Forestry & Nature Conservation, Universidad de Chile since 1991. I did my B.Sc. Forestry at Universidad de Chile (1992), while my M.Sc. (1996) and Ph.D. (2007) at the University of Canterbury. My teaching and research focuses on carbon, water and nutrient fluxes in forest ecosystems applied to sustainable forest management and ecological restoration.

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

This is my second time as an Erskine fellow (2014, 2018), and I think the Erskine Programme provides a great opportunity to interact with colleagues, and explore and discuss new research and teaching ideas. Also to interact with other Erskine fellows and to open to new disciplines. Personally having a sabbatical in New Zealand, also provides me with the opportunity to benchmark my work identifying weaknesses and strengths, while also opportunities, which might be difficult to see while being at my home institution for a long time.

What have you enjoyed about your time here at UC/Christchurch?
I'm supervising a M.Sc. student, and I'm interested to contribute towards refining their research ideas and the methods to test them while at the same time keeping them within the time frame of their studies.



Professor Bown (centre) with two PhD students Serajis Salekin (left) and Cristian Higuera (right)

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

I'm enjoying University life enormously; just to name a few, the interaction with colleagues and students, the coffee breaks, the interesting conversations and challenges, having more time to read the forestry literature and also reading in my leisure time, the time to share with friends, and last but not least, the time talking with my teenage daughter while cooking together.