Sudeep Chandra, PhD

Dr. Sudeep Chandra's research at the University of Nevada focuses on the conservation and restoration of aquatic ecosystems with a goal of improving environmental policy based on scientific information. Sudeep has been a strong advocate of cooperative international research and conservation. His interest in international research began in 1997 when he participated in the Tahoe-Baikal Institute's annual environmental exchange program, which brought him to Lake Baikal, Russia. In 2003, he was awarded his 1st international research project from the Trust for Mutual Understanding and the National Geographic Society to investigate the impacts of mining activities on the rivers of the upper Lake Baikal watershed in Mongolia. This work led to the development of a project funded by the Global Environment Fund and World Bank to use faith-based initiatives and scientific approaches to conserve the world's largest trout (*Hucho taimen*) in Mongolia. Through nongovernmental organizations (Great Basin Institute, Earth Watch), Sudeep worked with his students to conserve one of the last population strong holds of the American crocodile along the Central coast of Mexico. Support from NATO provided an opportunity for Sudeep and his colleagues to train local students and understand how lakes utilized for irrigation may be used for fisheries production in Uzbekistan. Together with his colleague and friend, Dr. Zeb Hogan, host of the globally watched National Geographic show *Monster Fish*, Sudeep has travelled to Bhutan to develop approaches for conserving Bhutanese rivers and the giant golden mahseer (*Tor putitora)*; they recently established the Global Water Center at the University of Nevada.

From 2008-11, Sudeep and his Nevada undergraduate students worked on Northeastern Siberian lakes in Russia to understand the influence of climate change and carbon dynamics in lakes. This National Science Foundation supported project led to the development of a multi university effort to create the 1st ecological field station in Russian Siberia supported by the US government. His current efforts initially supported by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) develops capacity to protect Central America's largest lake, Lago Atitlan. This project is transferring scientific and policy information from the lakes in the Pacific Rim (Lake Tahoe and Crater Lake) to academicians and government institutions in Guatemala. In an effort to expand the work from Guatemala to other regions of Latin America, Sudeep and colleagues from Guatemala are working with their colleagues (e.g. Argentina, Chile, Canada, Uruguay, United States) supported by the InterAmerican Institute and the National Science Foundation to participate in a new endeavor, *Sensing the America's Freshwater Ecosystem Risk from Climate Change*. Sudeep loves to engage laypersons and professionals, students, policy makers, and concerned citizens in the importance of using science based information to protect and restore aquatic resources.

Sudeep graduated in 2003 with a Ph.D. in ecology from the University of California-Davis with Dr. Charles Goldman. He moved to the Center for Limnology, University of Wisconsin- Madison to conduct postdoctoral research with Dr. Jake Vander Zanden. Currently, Sudeep is an Associate Professor of Limnology and Conservation Ecology at the University of Nevada, Reno (USA); he serves as Director of the University's new initiative the Global Water Center: Solutions for Sustainability. Starting in 2005, Sudeep had the opportunity to co-direct the Castle Lake Environmental Research and Education Program which is home to the longest running mountain lake ecology collections in North and South America. In this position, he incorporates place-based learning

approaches when training students and post-doctoral researchers from the United States and other countries in limnological field methods and analysis. In 2012-13, Sudeep served as a Program Director for the Ecosystem Sciences Program at the U. S. National Science Foundation. He has received awards for his efforts including: American Fisheries Society's CA-NV Award of Excellence, the Tahoe-Baikal Institute Alumni of the Year, University of Nevada's College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources Teacher of the Year, and his favorite, the Mad Hatter's Award from the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Hydrologic Sciences, where he now serves as an Interim co-director. He feels like there is much more to give in life, and will continue to work to help his fellow humans and the environment in which they inhabit.