

Serge Thomas is an Assistant Professor at Florida Gulf Coast University (Ft Myers, FL) since 2008. Prior to this, he was a visiting Professor and Post-doctoral fellow at Florida International University since 2001. He holds a Ph.D. in Oceanology from the University Pierre and Marie Curie (2000, Paris, France). A central theme of much of his research is to determine ecosystem level consequences of natural and anthropogenic stresses in saline to freshwater, permanent to transient, lotic to lentic, manmade to natural shallow tropical hydrosystems. His research also focuses on green technologies to clean water (e.g. Stormwater Treatment Areas, Stormwater urban ponds), how to restore hydrosystems, Harmful Algae Blooms (*Karenia brevis*, cyano HABs) and photophysiology. Serge has secured funding from many entities such as the various water management districts (e.g. SJRWMD, SFWMD), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Power and Light as well as many communities engaged scholarships (e.g. various Cities, Homeowner Associations, Property Owners' Associations, Community Development Districts). Serge strongly believes that reaching the communities (and the students) is key to make a change and protect our precious water resources.

Dhruvkumar Bhatt is a GIS/Spatial Analyst working with The Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University to assist Faculty Members and Students in research requiring the use of GIS and Remote Sensing tools. Mr. Bhatt has worked in the GIS/Remote Sensing industry for the past 8 years in the government, private and academic sectors. He has worked on oyster reef restoration, glacier mass balance, crop prediction along with geo-coding addresses, zoning, parcel data mapping, and maintaining 911 databases.