

**Dr. Franco Biondi** received a Laurea (Italian Doctorate) in forestry from the Università di Firenze in 1985, and a Ph.D. in watershed management and geosciences from the University of Arizona, Tucson in 1994. He is now an Associate Professor of geography at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he is also the DendroLab Director, and a member of three interdisciplinary graduate programs: Hydrologic Sciences, Atmospheric Sciences, and Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology. He specializes in the application of tree-ring science to the study of climate, forest, and landscape dynamics, and has additional experience and interests in spatial processes and environmental change. He has conducted research projects in the USA, Mexico, and Italy, and has received funding from the National Science Foundation (including a CAREER award in 2002-2008), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Geographic Society. He has approximately 120 publications and conference presentations describing results from his research projects. One of his research papers has been cited 125 times in refereed scientific journals. Since his arrival at the University of Nevada, Reno, he has brought in \$2.6 million through competitive extramural grants.

Dr. Biondi received the 2001 Paper of the Year Award from the Climate Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers, and in 2006 he was a member of the National Academy of Science Committee that authored the book "Surface Temperature Reconstructions for the Last 2,000 Years". In spring 2007 he was appointed Blaustein Visiting Associate Professor in the School of Earth Sciences at Stanford University, and in summer 2007 he was a Guest Professor with the Chair of Forest Ecology at the Swiss Technological Institute (ETH) in Zurich, Switzerland. In 2008 he was the recipient of two awards at the University of Nevada, Reno: the Hyung K. Shin Award for Excellence in Research from the College of Science, and the Outstanding Researcher Award from the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering.