Hydropower Foundation announces Surabhi Karambelkar, recipient of the Julie Keil Scholarship for Women in Hydropower

As a student at University of Arizona, Surabhi is following in the steps of scholarship honoree, Julie A. Keil. She is currently working on hydropower issues in one of the world's most litigated and contentious rivers: the Colorado River. As tensions between stakeholders that represent hydropower, agricultural, municipal, environmental, and cultural interests on this river have intensified with the ongoing 19-year drought, she has used her dissertation research to build community and consensus among the diverse interests similar to Julie’s efforts in relicensing PGE hydro projects.

"Karambelkar is drawn to the intricate geographic, legal, institutional, and economic complexity of the water/energy nexus of the Colorado River." This is what her advisor, Carl Bauer stated as he described Surabhi’s passion for examining the social, environmental, and policy implications of changing water and energy uses of the Colorado River.

Brenna Vaughn, Executive Director at the Northwest Hydroelectric Association, pictured above stated, “Surabhi is so unique in that she embodies so many of Julie’s wonderful qualities to seek consensus among varied stakeholders and a deep passion for hydropower. She will be a wonderful addition to the hydropower industry and I applaud the selection committee in selecting such a wonderful recipient to draw women into careers in hydropower.”

The Hydropower Foundation and the selection committee overseeing the fund are pleased to offer her a well-deserved scholarship of $3,000 to assist in meeting her goals.

The scholarship was presented to Surabhi at the July 24 luncheon for “Women in Hydropower” at the HydroVision International Conference in Portland, OR. Clarion sponsored her attendance for receipt of the award.

Information on future scholarships for women entering the hydropower field is available at Julie Keil Women in Hydro Scholarship.