

Preface

The theme for the Program in Geophysical Fluid Dynamics for the summer of 2011 was *Shear Turbulence: onset and structure*. Ten days of principal lectures by Fabian Waleffe and Rich Kerswell began the summer, and a large number of seminars on this and a variety of other topics then continued through the eighth week. These lectures are presented in these Proceedings and form (we believe) the most complete, connected account of this subject)

Eleven fellows from around the globe helped to record the principal lectures, and each carried out a project of his/her own, presented in seminar during the tenth and final week. All these lectures and projects are also presented in this Proceedings volume.

The further seminars presented throughout the summer by visitors and (in some cases) by GFD faculty are also listed here. The popular Sears Lecture was given by L. Mahadevan. The title was *On growth and form: geometry, physics and biology*. It was indeed popular, drawing a large and enthusiastic audience.

There exists a phenomenon called “fun” (sp?). This was embodied in various social gatherings. To name just two (there were others): the 4th of July barbecue, organized by the fellows; and the traditional gathering, at the end of the final week, at the home of George and Kim Veronis on Crooked Pond.

In addition there was softball. The GFD team had a winning season, the first in quite a while!

The coorganizers want to thank Jeanne Fleming and Janet Fields, our most visible links to WHOI, for their administrative expertise and unstinting help with the needs of the program, the visitors, the fellows and (not least) the coorganizers.

The GFD Program acknowledges continuing support from the US National Science Foundation through grant OCE-0824636 and the Office of Naval Research through grant N00014-09-1-0844. The program also receives support from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Fabian Waleffe’s work was partially supported by the US National Science Foundation under Grant No. 0807349. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.