

PREFACE

The topic of Principal Lectures for the forty-ninth year of the program was “Boundary Layers”. The subject centers around those problems in which the boundary conditions lead to a large gradient near the boundary. Nine of this year’s principal lectures were given by Joe Pedlosky and a tenth was given by Steve Lentz. The fluid mechanics of boundary layers was reviewed, first starting from its classical roots and then extending the concepts to the sides, bottoms, and tops of the oceans. During week number 4, a mini-symposium on “Ocean Bottom and Surface Boundary Layers” gathered a number of oceanographers and meteorologists together to report recent advances. And, finally, Kerry Emanuel of MIT delivered the Sears Public Lecture to a packed hall in Clark 507. The title was “Divine Wind: The History and Sciences of Hurricanes”.

The ten student projects continue to constitute the heart of the summer GFD experience. There are studies of new, original, and tractable problems by our fellows, who are in the midst of their graduate work. Some of the studies are already continuing to grow to full projects to be published in due course. Whatever the results of this summer’s experience is for each fellow, be it a fully finished work, new ideas, fearless and honest inquiry, or simply experience working with a staff member in our craft, we wish our fellows well in their future studies and research.

Special thanks go to a number of people who served to make the program flow smoothly. Jeanne Fleming and Penny Foster ran the office and performed administrative work for the many visits and lectures. Their work in preparation during the “slack” season (completely misnamed) is especially appreciated. Janet Fields helps with all aspects of the academic programs for the fellows and as usual did a superb job. Keith Bradley created apparatus for a number of laboratory experiments, plus helped with odd tasks such as repairing old bicycles. George Veronis ran the world-class softball team that counted a number of wins in the season, including a victory over the staff, who, although ever wiser, never seem to age.

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Jack Whitehead and Claudia Cenedese,
Co-Directors