Editorial

Benoit Cushman-Roisin

© Springer Science+Business Media B.V. 2011

Dear Readers of *Environmental Fluid Mechanics*,

After serving for more than a decade as Editor-in-Chief of *Environmental Fluid Mechanics* since its inception, I believe it is time to pass the baton to a new pair of hands. I will thus be stepping down to Associate Editor with the completion of this Volume 11, and Springer has appointed Prof. Harindra J. S. Fernando of the University of Notre Dame (USA) to be my successor, moving up from Associate Editor to Editor-in-Chief with the start of Volume 12 in January 2012. Joe, as he is more familiarly known to many of us, has been with *Environmental Fluid Mechanics* since its beginning and has been among the most active Associate Editors as well as a contributor of fine articles to the journal. For the many of you who know Joe, I'm sure you'll agree that the journal will be in good hands, and heading in new and important directions.

The main objective in establishing *Environmental Fluid Mechanics* in 2000 was to assist in the gathering of a scientific community around the study of natural fluid flows as they relate to environmental quality, for up until then hydraulicians and limnologists did not talk much with atmospheric physicists despite their common problems in turbulence, mixing and stratification. I believe this objective has been partially achieved. One specific example is the active pursuit today of boundary layer dynamics over flexible vegetation, for which water applications inform atmospheric applications, and vice versa. Another example is the system outlook, the integration of many interacting processes. As an overall measure of success, I am fond of remarking that a simple search of the internet today returns hundreds of thousands of hits for "Environmental Fluid Mechanics", with our journal near the top, amidst research centers and courses sharing the same name. The community is alive and well. It is also very international, with research teams found on every continent. Along the way, we have seen the journal pass several milestones, not least of which is an impact factor comfortably above one (1.6 at the last reckoning). But, as for all human enterprises, it is a work in progress, and new ideas can and must drive new aims. This, I leave for Prof. Fernando.

B. Cushman-Roisin (✉)

Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755-8000, USA
e-mail: Benoit.R.Roisin@Dartmouth.edu

Stepping down is an occasion for me to thank the many people who have helped make *Environmental Fluid Mechanics* the success that it is, starting from its humble origin amidst a dense array of related journals. I especially thank those of you who have served as Associate Editors, Guest Editors for special issues, and members of the Editorial Board; your bright ideas and hard work have been the source of both inspiration and appreciation. Particular thanks also go to Mrs. Petra van Steenbergen, Senior Publishing Editor for Geosciences at Springer. Quite simply without her confidence in our enterprise, sustained enthusiasm for this journal and tangible support to me as Editor, there would be no *Environmental Fluid Mechanics*.

Onward and upward!