NSF/MIT Project
Weather in a Tank
Project Collaborator Interview Protocol
Spring, 2007

The purpose of this interview is to determine any benefits and challenges participating professors experienced in using the NSF/MIT *Weather in a Tank* project equipment and experiments in the classroom. The candid information you provide will greatly inform activities for Year 2 of the project. ***All responses will be kept confidential and no respondent names will be used in any project reports.***

Professor Interviewed: _____ College/University:_____
Interviewer: _____ Date:_____

Course(s) in which NSF/MIT experiments were used:_____

Questions:

1. We are aware of the late arrival of the project equipment. Were there any other problems you experienced with assembling and using the equipment and/or setting up and using the experiments?

   For instance: Was the performance of the equipment satisfactory? Did you experience any malfunction with the equipment when you tried to use it?

2. Please check all of the experiments that you conducted this term. (*Check all that apply.*)

□ Dye Stirring	□ Fronts (Cylinder Collapse)	□ Ekman layers	□ Hadley/Thermal wind
□ General Circ/Baroclinic Instability	□ Taylor Columns	□ Radal Inflow	□ Parabolic Surfaces
□ Inertial Circles	□ Perrot's Bathtub	□ Convection	□ Cloud Formation
□ Ekman Pumping	□ Ocean Gyres	□ Thrermohaline Circ	□ Source/sink
□ Other (Specify):_____			

3. What materials or texts did you use to teach this course during this term?

   - *In addition, were you able to incorporate any of the MIT project <u>texts or websites</u> into your course this term? If so, which ones?*

4. Did you find the ***Weather in a Tank*** project website www.paoc.mit.edu/labguide useful?

   If Yes, What aspects were most useful to you?

   If No, Why do you think you didn't access or use the website?

5. Were you able to fill out the weekly *Instructor Logs* for the project?

   If Yes, Did you find the process efficient and the website easy to use? Was the *Instructor Log* form easy to use?

   In No, What hampered you in providing the weekly *Instructor Log* information? Is there anything the project could do to assist you in providing this information to the project team?

6. Did you feel that the two-day training at MIT in January adequately prepared you to use the equipment and experiments with students?

   If Yes, What was particularly useful to you during this training?

   If No, What would you have wanted from the project staff to assist you in better using the equipment and implementing the experiments?

7. Was there any additional support that the MIT project staff could have provided *during this school term* to assist you in implementing these experiments?

   For instance**:** *More contact with project staff? More contact with other collaborators? Opportunities to interact on a listserv or through the project website to discuss procedures, successes, and challenges?*

8. In your opinion, has the use of these experiments enhanced your teaching of related concepts in any significant way?

   If Yes, Please give some examples of the affect of these experiments on your teaching.

   If No, Please explain why the experiments have not been useful in your teaching.

9. Do you feel that student learning in your course has been significantly enhanced through the use of these experiments?

   If Yes, Please give some examples of enhanced student learning. ***Also, were these experiments useful for some students/types of students more than others?***

   If No, Please indicate why you think these experiments have not affected student learning.

10. Will you make any changes to your syllabus, course content, or teaching methods based on your experience with these experiments? *Please explain any proposed changes.*

11. Do you have any recommendations to share with the project staff that would help improve the *Weather in a Tank* project?

12. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your use of the NSF/MIT project equipment and experiments or the *Weather in a Tank* project as a whole?