

The WHOI Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Program presents

**If It's Tuesday, It Must Be Moorea:
Observations of Hydrodynamic Processes
That Matter to Reef Ecology**

The 2026 Sears Public Lecture



Stephen Monismith
Departments of Civil &
Environmental Engineering & Oceans
Stanford University

**Monday, July 20th, 5 p.m.
Redfield Auditorium
45 Water Street, Woods Hole**

Reception to follow

Coral reefs and ocean flows shape each other — the reef's structure changes how water moves, and that movement in turn shapes the reef. This talk tours the variety of flows seen on reefs worldwide, from deep internal waves (North Atlantic) to density-driven currents (Red Sea) to everyday wave action. From the North Pacific, Prof. Monismith will discuss observations of wave-driven flows on Moorea, wave damping by the reefs of Palmyra Atoll, and beach-like behavior on Ofu, American Samoa. The talk will close with new measurements from Palau, linking ocean physics directly to reef health and growth.