



College 2012 portrait photo courtesy of SUNY-Canton

## *About the Author*

After completing the usual four years of high school at St. Pius X Seminary (in Galt, CA) the author, Dr. Stephen Ledoux (pronounced “la-dew”) graduated in June, 1968, and then attended *St. Patrick’s College* seminary (in Mountain View, CA) for two years. He began his professional activities in the early 1970s, earning his B.A. and M.A. degrees, in 1972 and 1973 respectively, at *California State University, Sacramento*. At various times he has taught courses in behaviorology, education, English, and psychology, all (except English) at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, with behaviorology taught at the high school level as well (at St. Pius X in 1972). After several years of university teaching, he returned to full-time study, and earned his Ph.D. from *Western Michigan University*, in 1982, in *The Experimental Analysis of Behavior*. (He says that, in part, the Ph.D. seemed necessary, because his California M.A. degree was signed by “Ronald Reagan” and “James Bond,” which some folks find a little unbelievable.)

Prof. Ledoux has held various positions both at home and abroad. For four years, 1975 through 1978, he taught in Australia, starting as a “Tutor” (a full-time graduate assistant/lecturer) at the *University of Queensland* in Brisbane, and then as a “Lecturer” (an assistant professor) at the *Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education* near Melbourne. He also taught in China, both in 1979 (at *Xi’an Jiaotong University* where he was their first foreign English teacher) and in 1990–1991 (at *Xi’an Foreign Languages University* as part of a faculty exchange). In 1982 he began teaching at the Canton campus of the *State University of New York*. After 33 years there, he retired with Emeritus status in 2015.

Over the last several decades, Dr. Ledoux prepared numerous publications and presentations, and was involved in many other ways in professional work. By the late 1980s, he had committed that most of his writings would be explicit contributions to expanding the disciplinary literature of behaviorology. With colleague Dr. Carl Cheney, of Utah State University, Logan, he worked extensively in the early 1980s with the concept and function of the *Aircrib* (A.K.A. the “baby tender”) an invention of the late Prof. B. F. Skinner (see Appendix 1 in some of Dr. Ledoux’s books). For several decades he has been very involved with the movement formally establishing the independence of the 100-year-old discipline now called of behaviorology, including a three-year term (1988–1991) as the first elected president of *The International Behaviorology Association*. In 1997 he published two books, *Origins and Components of Behaviorology* (which went

into its third edition in 2015) and, with his spouse, Dr. Nelly Case (a now retired professor of the Crane School of Music at SUNY–Potsdam) as the primary author, a book about the year they taught in China, with their then five-year-old son, entitled *The Panda and Monkey King Christmas—A Family's Year in China*. Many books have followed these.

In 1998 Prof. Ledoux was elected Chair of the Board of Directors of *The International Behaviorology Institute* (TIBI) which is a non-profit educational corporation that he helped establish to support behaviorologists by providing training in behaviorology. In 2001 he declined to continue as Chair so that he would have the time to fulfill appointments as the Editor both of the TIBI journal *Behaviorology Today*, which he edited through volume 14, and of the TIBI web site ([www.behaviorology.org](http://www.behaviorology.org)) which he was still editing at this writing (in January 2019).

After also completing a half dozen study-question books for various textbooks, in 2005 he accepted the task of editing Lawrence Fraley's 1,600-page, three-course, doctoral-level, hardcover textbook, *General Behaviorology: The Natural Science of Human Behavior*, which was completed and published in late 2008. This was the first extensive and systematic textbook of the independent behaviorology discipline. It provided inspiration for both Dr. Ledoux's 2014 textbook, entitled *Running Out of Time—Introducing Behaviorology to Help Solve Global Problems*, and his 2017 general-audience primer, entitled *What Causes Human Behavior—Stars, Selves, or Contingencies?* (both published by BehaveTech Publishing of Ottawa, Canada). He has written other books as well.

Prof. Ledoux also edited two other books by Prof. Fraley, each of which describes helpful contingency engineering in a different applied area: (a) *Dignified Dying—A Behaviorological Thanatology*, is a 2012 book that covers a topic relevant to every human being, and (b) *Behaviorological Rehabilitation and the Criminal Justice System*, is a 2013 book that covers a topic important for society as a whole. Around 2019 he helped get each of these two books re-released in softcover editions.

In 2012 Dr. Ledoux updated B. F. Skinner's 1963 article, "Behaviorism at fifty," by publishing his article, "Behaviorism at 100," in *American Scientist*. Two months later *Behaviorology Today* (now called *Journal of Behaviorology*) published a longer, fully peer-reviewed version of this article using the title, "Behaviorism at 100 unabridged."

Among Prof. Ledoux's other major books are these three: One book, with first author Norm Peterson, is *An Introduction to Verbal Behavior—Second Edition* (a workbook published in 2014). Another book is *Beautiful Sights and Sensations—Small Collections of Native American and Other Arts* (a book that was published in 2016, and which includes some of his art photographs). A third book is *Science Works on Human Behavior* (a book of short readings published in 2018).

Dr. Ledoux continues to write for a variety of audiences. One recent paper addresses all the natural sciences by discussing some of their common foundations through an ancient, cross-cultural, rule-of-law tradition, this one known as "ten commandments." Appreciating that a wide range of other secular, cultural topics effectively share the "ten commandments" motif, he simply titled this article, "Ten Commandments of Natural Science." He also presents it to interested audiences of either a secular or a religious persuasion.

Beyond teaching and writing, Prof. Ledoux's professional interests include verbal behavior (especially as applied to language teaching), pedagogical effectiveness, and the experimental analysis of simultaneously evoked and simultaneously selected human operants. His hobbies involve star gazing and meteorites, as well as arts from China, Japan, and Southwest Native Americans (see *Beautiful Sights and Sensations...*).☺☺