

Reflections on Adaptive Behavior

Essays in Honor of J. E. R. Staddon

edited by Nancy K. Innis

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Preface

On May 17, 2003, former graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and research associates met at Duke University to celebrate the career of Professor John E. R. Staddon. At a day-long symposium, fifteen papers were presented, many of which provided the basis for the chapters in this volume. Papers by José Lino Oliveira Bueno, Jeremie Jozefowicz, Elliot Ludvig, and Ken Steele were also presented.

This volume is a permanent tribute to John Staddon. Eight of the chapters are by former graduate students in Staddon's lab who received their degrees in the 1970s (Innis, Malone, Kello), the 1980s (Reid, Horner), or the 1990s (Machado, Dragoi, Cleaveland). The appendix to chapter 1 lists all Staddon's Ph.D. and MA/MS students and their dissertation or thesis topics. Other chapters are by former post-doctoral fellows (Dale, Wynne, Higa) and research associates (Manabe, Chelaru, Cerutti).

The book opens with a brief biography and an outline of Staddon's research program, which spans nearly 40 years, from the mid 1960s to the present day. The chapters in parts I and II present accounts of research and theory, most of which involve topics, such as choice and timing, which are directly related to Staddon's research program. Part III comprises chapters of a more general nature on behaviorism. In part IV, Staddon's Italian colleague Giulio Bolacchi, whose work until now has only been published in Italian, outlines his theory of interests, a proposal for integrating the social sciences. Bolacchi is Chairman and Program Director of the International Graduate Program in Science of Organization of the Association for the Institution of a Free University in Nuoro. Staddon has participated in this program each year since 1991.