

STEVEN LEONARD

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SUMMARY

Proven, results-oriented executive with nearly 30 years of experience leading diverse, high-performing teams in the national defense arena. Former senior military strategist, strategic communicator, writer, and logistician. Complex problem solver with extensive experience leading interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational teams. Seasoned executive-level briefer, motivational speaker, and mentor.

Creator of [Doctrine Man](#), a defense and national security micro-blog with nearly 200,000 followers across social media platforms, and more than 2,000,000 unique visitors each week. Non-resident fellow with the [Modern War Institute](#) at West Point; Co-founder and board member of the [Military Writers Guild](#); Co-founder of the national security blog, [Divergent Options](#); Co-host of the national security podcast, [The Smell of Victory](#). Author, co-author, or editor of ten books, and numerous articles, blog posts, and podcasts.

PROFESSIONAL

The University of Kansas School of Business, Lawrence, KS

Senior Assistant Dean / Professor of the Practice

Director of Assessments

Graduate Programs Director

2015-2021

Leads the Business School's program for Assurance of Learning. Chairs Program Assessment Committee for the School of Business and serves on the university's Faculty Advisory Committee for assessments. Directs all aspects of graduate academic programs in organizational leadership and supply chain management, including faculty assignments, budgeting, curriculum, student and academic services, and marketing and outreach. Provides strategic direction for the academic programs while serving as a faculty member within the program.

U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS

Director, Commander's Planning Group

Special Assistant to Commanding General

2014-2015

Led research and analysis group for the U.S. Army's education and training hub, exploring changes in warfare and implications for national security. Personal research on new security threats, improving human performance, and optimizing education and training programs to gain increased cognition and resilience.

Chief of Operations / Assistant Chief of Staff

2013-2014

Directed operations, integration, and synchronization center for 40,000-person organization operating from 17 locations nationwide, orchestrating all aspects of training, education, and leader development for the U.S. Army. Led Army-wide effort to create institutional/educational foundation for Cyber Operations.

Department of State, U.S. Embassy-Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq 2012-2013
Senior Advisor / Chief of Educational Programs

Led 120-person advisory team and served as a senior advisor to the Deputy National Security Advisor for the Government of Iraq; President, National Defense University; and President, Ministerial Training Institute.

U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS 2011-2012
Director of Strategic Communication

Served as communication director for executive-level headquarters, charged with planning and implementing comprehensive strategy for communication, marketing, and engagement, combining traditional public affairs, outreach, online and social media, and community relations.

Director of Strategic Planning 2008-2011

Served as executive-level advisor for strategic engagements with government, business, and academia. Developed and implemented strategies for education, training, and leader development. Provided professional writing support for executive-level leaders.

Chief, Operational Doctrine 2004-2008

Led Army effort to redefine and write new central organizing concepts and doctrine in response to new national security threats. Led diverse interagency team to write first doctrine for US Government cooperative operations with other nations and organizations.

ACADEMIC

School of Advanced Military Studies, M.A. 2001

Focus: Strategic Planning, Military History and Theory

Murray State University, M.S. 1991

Focus: Systems Management

University of Idaho, B.S. 1987

Focus: Civil/Mechanical Engineering

ACTIVITIES, MEMBERSHIPS, AND HONORS

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lifetime Member

Disabled American Veterans, Lifetime Member

101st Airborne Division Association, Lifetime Member

Association of the United States Army, Lifetime Member

Military Strategists Association, Lifetime Member

Ordnance Corps Association, Lifetime Member

Military Officers Association of America, Lifetime Member

Senior Fellow, the Modern War Institute at West Point, 2019-present

Non-Resident Fellow, the Modern War Institute at West Point 2017-2019

Editorial Review Board, Interagency Journal, Arthur D. Simons Center for Interagency Cooperation, 2018-present

Editorial Board, *Divergent Options*, 2017-present
Board of Directors, Military Writers Guild, 2017-2021

Henry A. Bubb Award for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas School of Business, 2021
Gordon Fitch Award for Distinguished Faculty Service, University of Kansas School of Business, 2019
The Order of the Archangel Gabriel, Distinguished Military Strategist (United States Military Strategists Association), 2015
Keith L. Ware Award, Best U.S. Army Website (U.S. Army, Office of Chief of Public Affairs), 2011
The Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe, Distinguished Member of Ordnance Corps (Ordnance Corps Association), 1997
Herbert W. Alden Award, Distinguished Leadership (U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School), 1993
Joseph M. Heiser Award, Academic Excellence (U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School), 1993
Society of the Crimson Pen, Superior Literary Contributions (Ordnance Corps Association), 1991
Gold Medal Award, Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge, 1990
Firefighter of the Year (Moscow Fire Department | Moscow, Idaho), 1986

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

With Great Power: Leadership, Character, and Conflict Beyond the Multiverse (editor, contributing author), Casemate Books, London, 2023 (projected)
To Boldly Go: Leadership, Strategy, and Conflict in the 21st Century and Beyond (editor, contributing author), Casemate Books, London, 2021
Why We Write (editor, contributing author), Middle West Press, Ames, Iowa, 2019
Winning Westeros: How Game of Thrones Explains Future Conflict (contributing author), Potomac Books, Washington, DC, 2019
Legends of Strategy: How Star Wars Explains Future Conflict (contributing author), Potomac Books, Washington, DC, 2017
Atlantic Council Strategy Papers, Vol. 3 (contributing author), Atlantic Council, 2017
Coloring with Clausewitz, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing, 2017.
Up in Smoke (The Further Adventures of Doctrine Man!!, Volume 4), Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing, 2015.
Fifty Shades of Multicam (The Further Adventures of Doctrine Man!!, Volume 3), Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing, 2014.
The Further Adventures of Doctrine Man!!, Volume 2, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing, 2013.
The Further Adventures of Doctrine Man!!, Volume 1, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing, 2012.
Interagency Handbook for Transitions, Arthur D. Simons Center for Interagency Cooperation, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, 2011.

U.S. Army Field Manual 3-07: Stability Operations, University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 2009.

A Century of Service: The History of the Moscow Fire Department, Idaho State Historical Society, Moscow, Idaho, 1988.

Articles:

“Back to the Future: Rediscovering Operational Art in an Era of Great Power Competition” (co-authored with Rebecca Jensen), **Modern War Institute**, (Sep 2021).

“War Books: The Art of the Decision,” **Modern War Institute**, (Jul 2020).

“You Really Think I’m Irrelevant?” **Modern War Institute**, (May 2020).

“That Clausewitz-is-Irrelevant ‘Hot Take’ Isn’t Blasphemous. It’s Just Wrong,” **Modern War Institute**, (Mar 2019).

“The Game,” **Military.com**, (Dec 2019).

“How Social Media Will Drastically Change the Ways Wars Are Fought. Unless it Doesn’t,” **Modern War Institute**, (Oct 2018).

“Broken and Unreadable: Our Unbearable Aversion to Doctrine,” **Modern War Institute**, (May 2017).

“Beyond the Horizon: Defining Army Core Competencies for the 21st Century” (co-authored with LTG Robert Caslen), **Army Magazine** (Jul 2011).

“Unleashing Design: Planning and the Art of Battle Command” (co-authored with MG Edward Cardon), **Military Review** (Mar/Apr 2010).

“Upshifting the Engine of Change” (co-authored with LTG William B. Caldwell, IV), **Military Review** (Jul/Aug 2008).

“Resetting the Capstone of Army Doctrine” (co-authored with GEN William Wallace), **Army Magazine** (Mar 2008).

“Forward Support in the Ia Drang Valley,” **Army Logistician** (Mar/Apr 2006).

“Custer’s Nemesis,” **Wild West** (Jun 2001).

“Supporting the Fight: The Forward Support Battalion,” **Army Logistician** (Jul/Aug 2004).

“One Man’s Vision: The Evolution of Airmobile Artillery,” **Fires Magazine** (Jul/Aug 1999).

“Steel Curtain: The Guns on the Ia Drang,” **Fires Magazine** (Jul/Aug 1998).

“Power Projection Logistics on the Northern Frontier,” **Army Logistician** (Jan/Feb 1998).

“Falling in on War Reserves,” **Army Logistician** (Jan/Feb 1997).

“The Change of Command Inventory,” **Ordnance Magazine** (Nov/Dec 1991).

Monographs:

“Clausewitz, Complexity, and Custer: An Analysis of Decision Making in a Nonlinear System,” **School of Advanced Military Studies**, 2000.

“Inevitable Evolutions: Punctuated Equilibrium and the Revolution in Military Affairs,” **School of Advanced Military Studies**, 2001.

Editorial/Opinion:

“We Have Met the Enemy and He Is Us,” **Foreign Policy / Best Defense**, March 11, 2014

“Doctrine Man Speaks,” **Foreign Policy / Best Defense**, November 10, 2014

Point of Departure (weekly op-ed column), DHI, Inc, 2018-present

Lectures, Presentations, and Podcasts:

- "The 'Doctrine Man' Story," Defense Entrepreneurs Forum, April 24, 2015.
- "The Leader Brand," U.S. Army Strategic Broadening Seminar, July 29, 2016
- "Leading through Social Media," U.S. Army Strategic Broadening Seminar, July 29, 2016
- "The Leader Brand," National Guard Association of the United States Annual Conference, September 10, 2016
- "Leading Change in a Complex World," Kansas City District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, October 5, 2016
- "Leading Change in a Complex World," Unites States Air National Guard, January 9, 2017
- "The Mentorship Challenge," Kansas National Guard Annual Conference, April 29, 2017
- "The Leadership Legacy," National Guard Association of the United States Annual Conference, September 9, 2017.
- "The Seven Deadly Sins of Mentoring," American Medical Women's Association, September 16, 2017.
- "Leadership and Communication," U.S. Army Korea, May 30, 2018
- "Leading in the Digital Age," New York National Guard, June 27, 2018
- "Leading Change," National Guard Association of the United States Annual Conference, August 23-26, 2018
- "Leadership and Mentoring," Connecticut National Guard, November 2, 2018
- "Hollywood and the Military," War on the Rocks Bombshell Podcast, Kansas City, December 4, 2018
- "Values-Based Leadership," Hill's Pet Food, Topeka, Jun 27, 2019
- "Setting the Strategic Framework of the Future," National Guard Association of the United States Annual Conference, September 1, 2019
- "Risky Business," Association of the United States Army Annual Symposium, October 4, 2019
- "Leading By Example," Kansas Air National Guard, January 2, 2020
- "Military Education and National Security," U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies, February 10, 2020
- "The Third Rail," U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies, February 10, 2020
- "Leadership and Storytelling," Army-Navy Club, May 29, 2020
- "What it Means to Be an Ally," National Security Roundtable, December 3, 2020
- "Education, Innovation, and the Military," Krulak Center for Innovation, December 16, 2020
- "Science Fiction as a Learning Tool," Joint Geeks of Staff Podcase, March 10, 2021
- "Strategy Strikes Back," Essence of Wonder Podcast, May 1, 2021
- "Science Fiction and Strategy," NavyCon Annual Conference, June 4, 2021
- "The Dark Side of Leadership," Kansas Air National Guard, June 18, 2021
- "Leadership, Risk, and Opportunity," Always in Pursuit Podcast, July 13, 2021
- "To Boldly Go: Science Fiction as Premortem," September 4, 2021
- "To Boldly Go," Essence of Wonder Podcast," September 11, 2021
- "To Boldly Go," From the Green Notebook Podcast, September 28, 2021

“To Boldly Go,” Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress, September 29, 2021

“To Boldly Go,” Always in Pursuit Podcast, October 3, 2021

“The Goal-Driven Self,” Got Your Six Podcast, October 10, 2021

“Thought Leaders,” Association of the United States Army Podcast, November 4, 2021

Press Appearances and Quotes:

TV/Radio: BBC, Al-Jazeera, Defense News, NPR, Federal News Radio, C-SPAN

Newspapers: Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, Christian Science Monitor, US News and World Report, Boston Globe, Detroit Free Press, Kansas City Star, Army Times, Military Times, Defense News, War on the Rocks, Washington Times, Small Wars Journal

Magazines: Foreign Policy, US News and World Report, Newsweek