

# 10th Annual Swartz Foundation MIND BRAIN LECTURE

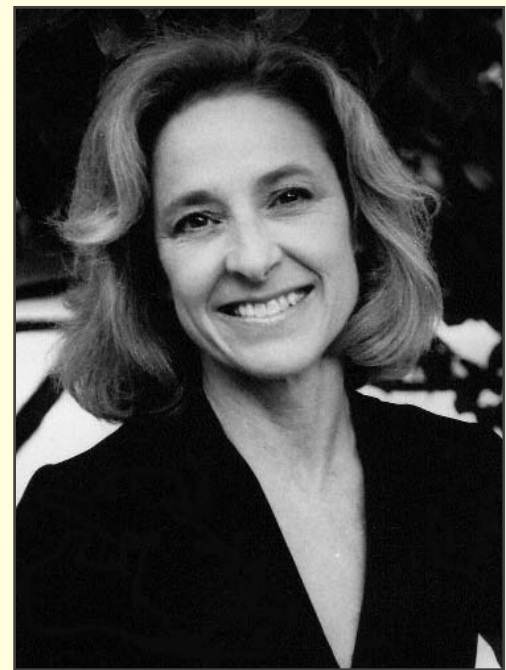
The Swartz Foundation

PROBING THE MYSTERIES OF THE MIND

## THE DRIVE TO LOVE: *The Biology and Evolution of Romantic Love*

**Helen Fisher, Ph.D.**

Research Professor,  
Center for Human Evolutionary Studies,  
Department of Anthropology,  
Rutgers University;  
Author of *Why We Love*



**Monday, March 27, 2006**

**4:30 p.m.**

Staller Center for the Arts, Main Stage  
Stony Brook University

**W**hy do we fall in love? Can humans really experience love at first sight? Why do we prefer one person over another? Anthropologist Helen Fisher will address these age-old questions and more as she shares her insight into how the brain shapes how (and who) we love.

In her work, Fisher distinguishes three primary drives that evolved for reproduction: the sex drive, romantic love, and long-term attachment. She will show how each of these is related to a brain network and how these three brain networks interact to shape our mating and reproductive strategies. Then using anthropological data and the results of brain scanning studies of men and women who are happily in love and rejected in love, she will discuss the basic neural traits of romantic love, frustration-attraction, abandonment rage, the despair response, addiction to love, love at first sight, and other phenomena associated with romantic passion. Her talk will conclude with global trends that are shaping patterns of sexual behavior, romance, and marriage.

Fisher earned her Ph.D. in physical anthropology at the University of Colorado. She has conducted extensive research on the evolution of human sex, love, and marriage and gender differences in the brain. She is the author of *Why We Love: The Nature and Chemistry of Romantic Love* and *Anatomy of Love: The Natural History of Mating, Marriage, and Why We Stray*. Her work has been featured in *Time*, the *New York Times*, and in this February's *National Geographic*.

The Swartz Foundation sponsors the Mind/Brain Lecture Series in cooperation with the University. For more information about the Foundation, please visit [www.theswartzfoundation.org](http://www.theswartzfoundation.org). To learn more about Helen Fisher, please visit [www.stonybrook.edu/sb/mind](http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/mind) or [www.helenfisher.com](http://www.helenfisher.com)



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*Seating is limited so please arrive early to secure a space.*

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