



"Robert McGrath"
<Robert.McGrath@stonybrook.edu>

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To "Torre,F.Jason" <FTORRE@NOTES.CC.SUNYSB.EDU>

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Subject Mind/Brain Lecture Series continues

Colleagues,

I wish to draw your attention to the 7th talk in the annual Mind/Brain Lecture Series.

On Monday, March 31, 2003 at 4:30pm in the Staller Center's Main Stage theatre, Joseph E. LeDoux, Ph.D. and Professor of Neural Science and Psychology & Director, Center for the Neuroscience of Fear and Anxiety, New York University, will present a lecture entitled "Probing the Mysteries of the Mind."

Joseph E. LeDoux is the Henry and Lucy Moses Professor of Science and Principal Director of the Center for the Neuroscience of Fear and Anxiety at New York University. He is the author of two popular books on neuroscience topics, *The Emotional Brain: The Mysterious Underpinnings of Emotional Life* and *The Synaptic Self: How Our Brains Become Who We Are*. He is an alumnus of Stony Brook University, earning a Ph.D. in Psychobiology in 1977.

LeDoux has spent the past 20 years studying the neurobiology of emotion. He has chosen to work in the fear system of the brain. From a scientific standpoint, fear is now the best understood of emotional systems, thanks in part to LeDoux's effort. Many of the most common psychiatric disorders that afflict humans are emotional disorders, and many of these are related to the brain's fear system, including phobias, panic attacks, post-traumatic stress disorder, and obsessive compulsive disorder. The best way to understand how the fear system works is not to chase the elusive brain mechanisms of fearful feelings, but instead to study the underlying neural systems that evolved as behavioral solutions to problems of survival. To learn more about LeDoux and his work, visit the Swartz Foundation Web site at www.swartzneuro.org and follow the links. The Swartz Foundation sponsors the Mind/Brain Lecture Series in cooperation with Stony Brook University. For further information about the Swartz Foundation, please visit their Web site or call (631) 632-4179.

The Swartz Foundation was established in 1994 by Dr. Jerome Swartz, founder and executive chairman of the board of Symbol Technologies, to explore the application of physics, mathematics and computer engineering principles to neuroscience, as a path to better understanding the brain/mind relationship.

Please pass along this information to any students you feel may be interested in attending.

- Robert L. McGrath, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs