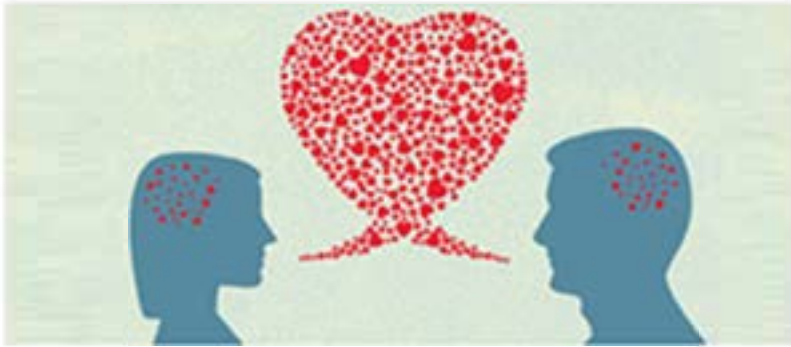


# ON THE BRAIN

THE HARVARD MAHONEY NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE LETTER

## Love and the Brain



Richard Schwartz and Jacqueline Olds know a lot about love. These Harvard Medical School professors and couples therapists study how love evolves and, too often, how it collapses. They have also been happily married for nearly four decades. Love may well be one of the most studied, but least understood, behaviors. More than 20 years ago, the biological anthropologist Helen Fisher studied 166 societies and found evidence of romantic love—the kind that leaves one breathless and euphoric—in 147 of them. This ubiquity, says Schwartz, an HMS associate professor of psychiatry at McLean Hospital, indicates that “there’s good reason to suspect that romantic love is kept alive by something basic to our biological nature.”

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## Faculty First Person: Chenghua Gu, PhD



A major obstacle in treating neurological diseases and brain tumors is delivering drugs across the blood-brain barrier (BBB), which acts as gatekeeper for the brain. My research opens up a new way of thinking about drug delivery.

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