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Lecture tackles complexity of women's sexual psychology

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NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 28, 2009

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LECTURE TACKLES COMPLEXITY OF WOMEN'S SEXUAL PSYCHOLOGY

MISSOULA –

Psychology Professor David Buss of the University of Texas at Austin will give the next installment of the President's Lecture Series at The University of Montana.

Buss, who heads UT's Individual Differences and Evolutionary Psychology Area, will present "Why Women Have Sex: Strategies of Human Mating" at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, in the University Theatre.

Earlier that day from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m., Buss will give a seminar titled "The Murderer Next Door: Why the Mind is Designed to Kill" in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

Both events, presented in conjunction with the UM Office of the Provost, are free and open to the public.

A leading figure in the field of evolutionary psychology, Buss advances the argument in his best-selling books that the theory of evolution by natural selection has revolutionary implications for understanding the design of the human mind and brain. In his lecture presentation, he will analyze the motivations that guide women's sexual decisions and explain the deep-seated psychology and biology that drive their desires.

Buss is co-author of the book "Why Women Have Sex: Understanding Sexual Motivations from Adventure to Revenge (and Everything in Between)," published this year by

Henry Holt and Co. He and co-author Cindy Meston interviewed more than 1,000 women around the world for the book and came up with 237 reasons women have sex, ranging from the predictable – commitment – to the puzzling – curing a headache.

Buss earned a doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, and has taught at Harvard University and the University of Michigan. Among his many books are “Personality Psychology: Domains of Knowledge about Human Nature,” “The Murderer Next Door: Why the Mind is Designed to Kill” and “Dangerous Passion: Why Jealousy is as Necessary as Love and Sex.”

In 2007 and 2008, he was designated Highly Cited Researcher in the social sciences by the Institute for Scientific Information. He is a contributor and editor of “The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology,” which was nominated for the Scholarly Publisher’s Reference Award.

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