The activities of Japanese Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2017/2018

The Japanese Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (JSECS) consists of about 330 members. We are constantly promoting research networks among its members, disseminating the information on talks and events organized by each member, through HP and other medias. Below is the summary of our activity in 2017/2018.

The 39th annual meeting was held at the Rikkyo University (Tokyo) on 24 / 25th June 2017. Its program included two symposiums on ‘Historical Context of Cosmopolitanism’ and ‘Plurality of the Worlds’, nine research presentations, and a lecture concert. It should be noted that the lecture concert, normally on the evening of the first day, is one of the special features of our annual meeting. In 2017, we had a program of British or German organ music in the 18th century, using the instrument made by Tickell company in UK and that by Beckerath / MaNa company in Germany, both owned by the Rikkyo University.

On April 27, 2018, we welcomed Professor Lise Andries, President of the ISECS, for a research meeting held at the University of Tokyo. She gave us a talk, ‘The representation of the world in the illustrations of French and English Eighteenth Century travel books’ in which she analyzed the travel books of Louis-Antoine de Bouganville, James Cook, Jean-François de La Pérouse, and the illustrations contained in those books. Approximately 40 participants attended the lecture and we had more than one hour of stimulating questions and answers session after her talk.

The new number of our annual journal, The Annual Report (No. 33) was published on 15th June 2018. It contains the report of the 39th annual meeting in 2017 and research articles.