

The Icelandic Society of Eighteenth Century Studies
(Félag um átjándu aldar fræði)
Annual Report from February 2023 to February 2024

The Icelandic Society of Eighteenth Century Studies regularly holds three to four seminars every year. The seminars were held from February 2023 to February 2024.

The first seminar was held on 11 February 2023. The seminar was held after the Annual General Meeting of The Icelandic Society of Eighteenth Century Studies. Its theme was: "Love confessions in letters and diaries in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries". This seminar was successful in all respects.

The second seminar was held on 25 March 2023. Its theme was: "Of Icelanders in Copenhagen in the eighteenth century" when Copenhagen was the capital of Iceland. This seminar was very successful.

The third seminar was held on 14 October 2023. Its theme was: "Hrappseyjarprint – 250 years since its foundation". Since printing was first brought to Iceland around 1530, the church had control over book publishing in Iceland, but with the establishment of a printing in Hrappsey in Breiðafjörður, there was a turning point in the publishing of publications in Iceland. This seminar was very successful.

The fourth seminar was held on 10 February 2024 and was titled: "Of health issues in Iceland in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries". Four scholars presented their research and this seminar was very successful.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that the Icelandic Society for Eighteenth Century Studies celebrated its 30th anniversary on April 20 2024, in a new building, Edda - House of Icelandic Studies. The festival was dedicated to the history of this remarkable association and was a great success. The Icelandic Society for Eighteenth Century Studies was founded on April 9, 1994. Members are now 370.

Every summer the Society organises a day-trip to the countryside for its members in order to explore places of interest with regard to the 18th century. In the summer, 2023 the trip was to Dalasýsla, Western part of Iceland. Now in this summer, 2024 the trip will be to Árnessýsla, South part of Iceland.

The Board meets regularly. **The following sit on the Board of the Society:**

President: *Erla Dóris Halldórsdóttir*

Vice-President: *Kristrún Halla Helgadóttir*

Treasurer: *Helga Kristín Gunnarsdóttir*

Secretary: *Ingi Þorleifur Bjarnason*

Other Board Members: *Halldór Baldursson, Ingi Sigurðsson, Margrét Gunnarsdóttir, Ragnhildur Anna Kjartansdóttir and Sigríður Hjördís Jörundsdóttir.*

The Society participates in the publication of the scholarly journal *Sjuttonhundratal: Nordic Yearbook for Eighteenth-Century Studies* along with the other Nordic Societies for Eighteenth-Century Studies. The journal is published by the Swedish Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Editor-in-Chief is Johannes Ljungberg. On behalf of the Icelandic Society, *Unnur Birna Karlsdóttir* (Editor) and Sigurgeir Guðjónsson (Review Editor) sit on the Editorial Board.

The Society publishes its own scholarly journal on the web, *Vefnir* (www.vefnir.is).

Best regards

Erla Dóris Halldórsdóttir, president of the Icelandic Society of Eighteenth Century Studies.