

ISECS International Seminar for Junior Eighteenth Century Scholars

The International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS) invites applications from scholars in all fields of eighteenth-century studies within the context of a one-week International Seminar for Junior Eighteenth-Century Scholars. In 2008, the meeting will take place in Pardubice (Czech Republic) and will be co-organized by the Czech National Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and the Faculty of Arts of the University of Pardubice. The seminar will be held from **Monday the 8th to Friday the 13th of September 2008** in Pardubice, under the direction of Milena Lenderova (University of Pardubice).

The theme proposed is **Friendship, Conviviality, Hospitality**.

This may be taken to refer to family networks and relationships within the couple and between generations, subjects which have had new light shed upon them in the past twenty years thanks to new research by anthropologists, historians and demographers on the image of the family in the Eighteenth Century. However, from the moment of birth to that of death, intermediaries have never been lacking between the family and the rest of society, be they people, practices, places of sociability or institutions. Firstly the family knew how to delegate certain of its roles: the use of wet nurses, for example, was democratized during the Eighteenth Century. Other subjects of inquiry may include apprenticeship, school, or the voyage of initiation and training reserved for the privileged classes - the Grand Tour. All of these forms of socialisation, from the most humble to the most prestigious, bring into question the notions of friendship, conviviality and hospitality in the Eighteenth Century.

Specific places of sociability such as the salon, the cafe, the inn or even the learned academy, as well as the forms of writing to which these places lent themselves, correspondance, personal diaries, travel journals, may all be subjects of study.

Travel and accommodation

Travel and hotel assistance will be provided (in part or in full) by the organizers. Lunch will be served on site; the cost of evening meals is covered by participants.

Submission of Proposals

The seminar is limited to **15 participants**. The proposals (approx. 2 pages, single-spaced) should be based on an original research project (e.g. a doctoral dissertation) that deals with one of the aspects mentioned above. Because this is a seminar rather than a conference, each participant will be given **approximately one hour** to present the texts and questions that will then form the basis of a group discussion. Preference will be given to scholars who are at the beginning of their academic career (PhD or equivalent for less than six years). The official languages are French and English.

Applications should include the following information:

- a brief *curriculum vitae* with date of PhD (or equivalent)
- a list of principal publications and scholarly presentations
- a brief description of the proposed paper (approx. 2 pages, single-spaced)
- one letter of recommendation

The deadline for abstracts is **March 28, 2008**. Applications should be sent either by mail or by e-mail to one of the following addresses:

milena.lenderova@upce.cz

jiri.kubes@upce.cz

pardubice.doktorandi@seznam.cz

Milena Lenderova, Faculty of Arts, Univerzita Pardubice, Studentska 84, 53210 Pardubice 2,
Czech Republic.