# CALL FOR PAPERS

**31st Annual Conference of the**

**Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society**

***NETWORKS OF ENLIGHTENMENT***

**University of Glasgow**

**17 – 21 July 2018**

ECSSS returns to the city of Glasgow after twenty-eight years to hold its first-ever conference at Glasgow University—one of the central sites of the Scottish Enlightenment.

The theme of this conference—“Networks of Enlightenment”—is broadly conceived to capture areas of interdisciplinary interest in eighteenth-century Scottish life, including, for example, networks related to philosophical and literary activity, science and medicine, clubs and societies, religion, publishing, correspondence, collecting, social and political issues, and English, Continental, and transatlantic connections.

The conference will commemorate the tercentenary of the births of two major Scottish Enlightenment figures, whose medical, literary, ecclesiastical, antiquarian, and other networks were extensive: the Glasgow-educated anatomist and collector Dr. William Hunter (1718–83) and Hugh Blair (1718–1800), the eminent preacher and professor of rhetoric and belles lettres at the University of Edinburgh. The conference will take place in the newly remodeled, award-winning Kelvin Hall, a modern research hub which houses Hunter’s great collection, and which also offers access to the wider collections of the University, the National Library of Scotland, and Glasgow Museums.

The conference will begin on the evening of Tuesday 17 July with a reception and a plenary lecture by Emma Rothschild, Knowles Professor of History at Harvard University. Former ECSSS President and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Jane Rendall of the University of York will also deliver a keynote, and acclaimed historian Sir Tom Devine will conclude the event with the inaugural Thomas Muir Annual Lecture in memory of the “father of Scottish democracy”. The conference will also feature an excursion to Ayrshire to see the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum and some historic eighteenth-century homes.

Please e-mail a title and brief abstract of your proposed 20-minute paper, along with a one-page cv, to the conference organizer, Ronnie Young (ronnie.young@glasgow.ac.uk), by **1 November 2017**. Those offering proposals for 3-paper panels should submit the panel title and abstract as well as titles and abstracts of the individual papers and cvs of the presenters by the same deadline. We would particularly welcome proposals on Hunter and Blair along with the main conference theme. (Website: **http://tinyurl.com/y9nyx5vq)**