The Regional Studies Association welcomes submissions of abstracts to our annual Student and Early Career conference to be held in Newcastle, UK, in November 2017. This conference aims to provide students and early career researchers opportunities to present their work, receive feedback, network, collaborate and socialise with others working in regional studies and related fields.

The conference will bring together a range of international participants from different disciplines to present and debate their work in a welcoming, supportive and stimulating environment. Participants will be able to enrich their engagement with contemporary research in the field and share the learning and lessons on charting a career path in the context of changes in the academic landscape and labour market in institutional and funding terms.

This conference will give PhD students and early career researchers the opportunity to network, collaborate and socialise with others working in regional studies and related fields. Participants will receive invaluable feedback, new ideas and will learn how to strategically develop and enhance their profiles for career progression.

Editors of RSA journals will be present during the conference and available to discuss paper proposals participants have.

This conference will be held as part of the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS). CURDS, has been at the forefront of international academically rigorous and policy relevant research in urban and regional change, development and policy since 1977 and has trained a number of leading researchers, practitioners and policy makers in the field.

The RSA is very pleased to be working with CURDS for many years and to celebrate its many achievements in 2017.

We welcome submissions with a regional focus and especially those in the following areas:

- Alternative concepts and strategies for urban and regional development
- Cities, city-regions and regions in territorial development
- Community development
- Big and open data: analytics, mapping, modelling and visualisation in cities and regions
- Brexit
- Climate change, sustainability transitions and regional development
- Education and skills
- Employment, welfare and labour markets
- Entrepreneurship
- Finance and development in cities and regions
- Globalisation and de-globalisation
- Health, wellbeing and urban and regional development
- Infrastructure and regional development
- Inclusive growth in cities and regions
- Innovation, knowledge, learning and creativity
- Institutions, government and governance in regional development
- Migration and urban and regional change
- Politics and territory
- Regional industrial strategy and the revitalisation of manufacturing
- Regional resilience and adaptive capacity
- Smart specialisation
- Social and spatial inequalities and cohesion
- The gig economy
- Uneven development and spatial disparities
- Urban and regional policy and planning

**Academic organiser:** Andy Pike, Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS)

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