About the competition
The poster competition for Postgraduate students first ran last year at the SLSA 2013 conference at the University of York. The aim was to provide an opportunity for students to talk about their work, especially those in the ESRC doctoral training centres.

Posters are an established feature of conferences in other disciplines and are becoming increasingly common at legal events, particularly in the US. Posters allow you to present the core aspects of your research in a central location within a conference and are suitable for doctrinal, theoretical and empirical projects. You can be at any stage of your research as a poster can be used to convey not just findings, but also your research questions and background context and law.

The title of your poster will be advertised on the RGU and SLSA webpages, and a list of entrants will be included in the conference packs. A prize will be awarded for the best poster.

Why present a poster?
The posters will be on display throughout the conference, just off the main Atrium of Aberdeen Business School in the old library. The idea is that you will stand with your poster during the breaks so that you can discuss your research in more detail with interested participants. Your poster is a means for you to attract the interest of participants and to provoke in-depth discussion with them on a one-to-one basis. As such, posters not only provide you with an effective means of disseminating your research widely amongst the academic community but they also provide an excellent means of networking with your colleagues and of meeting new people.

Designing an effective poster
Your poster should be printed on A1 paper and laminated. As your poster is your means of attracting participants’ interest and attention, it is crucial for you to adopt an effective design. It should be readable from a distance of around 2 metres. It should also feature a strong title and be clear and uncluttered. Avoid the temptation to cram your poster with all of the details you would normally convey in a paper. Remember, the idea is to draw people in and to encourage one-to-one discussion of the detail. As such, posters should contain:

- Your name and contact details;
- Your title;
- A summary of your main thesis or research objective;
- A summary of your supporting arguments or key findings (if available)
- A summary of any wider issues or questions raised by your research.

There are a large number of websites offering guidance on poster design, some containing templates which you may wish to use, for example:

http://www.ncsu.edu/project/posters/
http://www.uwex.edu/ces/tobaccoeval/pdf/postertips.pdf
http://colinpurrington.com/tips/academic/posterdesign
http://www2.napier.ac.uk/gus/writing_presenting/academic_posters.html
Some are directed at other disciplines, whilst others are directed at students. Together, however they should provide sufficient guidance.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lyndsay Bloice (l.s.bloice1@rgu.ac.uk) if you require any further assistance.