About Me

• Public Affairs Officer for national health charity.
• Public Engagement volunteer.
• Science Writer.
• Part-time Open University Biology student.
What do I do?

• Write briefings, and articles to explain political processes and scientific research to a range of audiences,
• Advise our audience on how to work with MPs and other parliamentarians.
• Key areas of work - campaign for new medicines,
• Engage and meet with parliamentarians to raise issues and gain support,
• Through raising parliamentary questions, letters etc.,
• Arrange information stands,
• Organise events in Parliament and the devolved UK governments,
• Monitor health policy work and news and respond where appropriate,
• Get involved with other areas of the charity’s work!
How did I get into this role?

- A levels: Biology, English Literature and Government and Politics,
- Gap year - work placements/volunteering,
- Worked in Communications writing press releases and helped to run a press office,
- Science Media Centre Internship,
- First year of University
- Worked in fundraising- Event Management qualification,
- Public engagement and writing training courses,
- Set up blog and wrote articles for printed science publications and online,
- Bioscience degree with the OU part-time,
- Keen interest in Government affairs and health policy supported by A level, science knowledge and writing experience,
- Public Affairs Officer for Cystic Fibrosis Trust.
Science Communication and Volunteering

- Public Outreach and Engagement - Science festivals and fairs, events.
- Science articles for magazines and online publications.
- Social media - sharing science with others.
Tips and Advice

- Think about whether further education or some work experience placements or volunteering would benefit your chosen career most—do some research into what employers are looking for!
- Don’t be afraid to try out your chosen career in a voluntary capacity first as this will stand you in good stead for applications and will enable you to be confident that it’s what you’d like to do.
- Use your time wisely— if you enjoy talking to others about science, then find out about science festivals in your area or start up a blog to try your hand at science writing.
- Think outside the box, having a science degree (in progress!) is very useful for my role, but it may not seen like an expected career path using a bioscience qualification.
Thank You and Good Luck!

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