

**Personal Profile**



<b>Name</b>	Sian Deasy
<b>University campus</b>	Streatham Campus
<b>Degree subject</b>	BA English
<b>Number of years as a student ambassador</b>	2
<b>Year of graduation</b>	2017
<b>Current job/employer</b>	Outreach Officer, Next Steps South West

**Reason why you applied to be a student ambassador**

I applied to be a student ambassador as I wanted a flexible job that I could fit around my uni workload - being a student ambassador was perfect as I had complete control over when I worked, and so could apply for lots of work in quiet periods and then focus on my university commitments when I had deadlines approaching. The role also gave me the flexibility to not work during the university vacations if I wanted to go home and visit my family, which very few other jobs offered. I knew it would be good for my CV to show that I could balance various commitments by holding down a part-time job alongside my studies, and as I have always enjoyed working with people, and was confident in my ability to present to groups, I felt the role would suit me well.

**Best job you did and why**

I don't think there was a single job I did as a student ambassador that I didn't enjoy! The energy of working on large events, such as open days, is absolutely brilliant as you really do feel that you're a part of making something big happen. If I had to pick, my favourite job during my time as a student ambassador was probably working as a Realising Opportunities ementor, as it gave me the chance to build and sustain a relationship with a group of students over the course of a year through all the stages of their applications to university, and watching them succeed and make real progress was incredibly rewarding.

**What you feel you got out of it**

As well as having a well paying part-time job to support me financially whilst I was studying, I made a lot of great friends through the role, and it gave me a real sense of being part of a university-wide community during my time at Exeter. The wide variety of experiences I had whilst working as a student ambassador across lots of different events provided invaluable material when it came to writing my CV and applying for jobs after uni. In particular, being a student ambassador gave me the chance to really develop my communication and presentation skills, and meant I had lots of evidence of this to use when applying for jobs. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, being a student ambassador opened my eyes to how much I enjoyed working in outreach, which has led me to securing a job in widening participation since graduating.

**Future career**

Since finishing my degree, I have secured a full time job in outreach, working for Next Steps South West, part of the national NCOP project, as the outreach officer for Devon. My time as a student ambassador gave me the confidence to apply for this role straight out of university, and my experience of working in Widening Participation projects gave me the expertise to make a really strong application, and then hit the ground running when I started.

I would highly recommend the Exeter Student Ambassador Scheme to anyone!