



## **Volunteering – experience for a career in communications**

### ***Rebecca Baldwin is taking an MA Global Media & Postnational Communication at SOAS.***

“I considered volunteering because as a young student I found it impossible to be able to fill the work experience quotas that the jobs I’m applying for demand. I’m looking to develop a career in diplomacy and international development hopefully in relation to communications. For this reason I took up a voluntary placement at ReConnectAfrica.com. It specializes in recruitment across Africa through training events and advertising careers and operates over an online portal. It was a great opportunity to see the types of jobs available to me. It also allowed me to develop skills in research and public relations as well as article writing for their online magazine, which should all prove very valuable. I also have experience with several big clients and have the opportunity to continue working and interacting with the company in a lesser capacity whilst I continue studying. It has shown me the avenues available to me and helped with the research process. The worst thing about it was that it was voluntary and therefore un-paid, however SOAS helped with the expenses and although I lost money from not doing another job I’m sure the long-term benefits will significantly outweigh the short term losses- and those benefits represent the best part of the job. July 2006”

Rebecca Baldwin