Elizabeth Stevens:Can you remember or tell me about a time when you kind of knew you were in the right place when you came to Swarthmore. I'm not sure what your college selection process was, but, when was a time when you felt like, oh, this is where I should be, this is right for me?

Kara Peterman: I actually applied to Swarthmore early decision and got in, so, I was pretty convinced it was the right place for me [crosstalk 00:11:04]

Stevens: Of course.

Peterman: When I even just visited campus.

I, gosh, I mean, I can honestly say I felt it was the right place when I just discovered Swarthmore as a student applying. I remember just reading about various things, like how quirky some of the courses were. At least, from my perspective as a high schooler.

I went to a very large public high school, and what we had, a large swath of courses to take, it was all bread and butter classes. There were no interesting seminars, there were no, no diverse music groups or anything like that.

And I remember I saw, the Balinese gamelan course, and as it was, I had been to Bali, and I had heard the gamelan musicians in the street. And, wow, they have a course on Balinese gamelan?

I mean it was incredulous to me, it was incredible, I thought it was insane but also very attractive. My one regret is I never actually took Balinese gamelan at Swarthmore, so that was something that still goes with me to this day. But, I, that was just one of many things that I learned about Swarthmore that made me feel that it was the right place. And then it was just further confirmed when I got to campus and, as a Freshmen, in orientation, and all of these things throughout my life which had made me sort of an outsider, or not an outsider, but you know, everyone did one thing and I did something else. Or, I grew up in a foreign country, and that made me different growing up.

All of these things made me fit right in at Swarthmore, and it was one of the few, it was one of the few instances of belonging I had truly felt at that point in my life. And, it just, everything that made me weird or different, made me fit in perfectly at Swarthmore.

And so, that was very early on, as I said, the first week or so on campus.