Krista Thomason: What advice do you have that I can pass on to my first year advisee's when they are coming and sitting and talking to me about what classes they should take or anything else? What do you wish you could go back and tell either the first years or yourself?

Sam Sussman: My brother just started at Wesley and look, I think you should really follow, this is cliché, until you do it. You should follow your passions, but it's one of those things in life it's a cliché until you actually do it and then it's real.

You're under so much pressure. I think one of the real downsides to the lead education is that you made the feel that because you can in theory do everything, you kind of have this pressure to do everything. If not you're wasting this valuable time at this remarkable place. It is a remarkable place, but it's also a place that is open to whatever form of yourself you want it to me.

I think you shouldn't feel pressure to find that form right away. You should take your time. You should take very different classes. You should hang out with very different people. You should try to be embedded in a few different social groups. You should definitely stick out with friends who are different than you. I'm not talking about the superficial categories that we all know. From a different place, they have a different class background. Not that these are superficial things, but what I mean is people who really see the world in different ways.

People who's metaphors are different than yours. That's what you should try to find. I think you should trust yourself. If you think you really want to take that fourth class in english literature, which may be commits you to doing it as a major or minor, well yeah. Maybe that means you want to do a major or minor. That's okay. Right?

I think it's important to have a little patience with hey don't stress that much about your first job. Your first job might not be the thing that brings you ... It might not be the truest last best form of you. It would be weird if it was. Just take some time to experiment with different version of yourself until you find something that makes you comfortable. You don't have to do that econ major.

Thomason: I like that you said follow your passion sounds easy until you do it. The equivalent that I find myself saying a lot is, learn how to trust your gut. Which is harder than it sounds. Much harder than it sounds. It's a lot easier, I think particularly as you were describing as far as being a very cerebral sort of place. It's very easy to second guess yourself. It's very easy to listen to that smart sounding advice. It's harder to stick with that hunch. That gut feeling. That sense that you have that's not maybe articulate, that's maybe implicit. That isn't something that you can fully put words on, and yet that might be leading you in the right direction more than you think.