Our Mission

Career Services counsels students and alumni as they explore career directions. Since career development is preparation for life, our mission is to help students gain self-understanding and connect their interests, values and skills with knowledge about careers and life beyond Swarthmore College. In support of that mission, we build relationships with faculty, colleagues at the College, alumni and families of our students and serve as a resource for employers and graduate schools who offer opportunities.

Meet the Staff:

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77% of respondents seeking employment had secured positions by graduation.

81% of seniors plan to enroll in graduate or professional school within the next 5 years.

Based upon survey responses before graduation from 286 of 419 seniors, or 68% of the graduating class.

Plans after Graduation

- Employment 70%
- Graduate or Professional School 21%
- Travel or vacation 1%
- Undecided 3%
- More undergrad study 1%
- Other 4%

Class of 2018
Top Geographic Locations
The top geographic locations where graduating students have begun their careers, 2014-2018

New York City
20%

Philadelphia
19%

Washington, DC
14%

International
8%

Boston
8%

San Francisco/N. California
6%

Top Attended Grad Schools

1. Harvard University
2. University of Pennsylvania
3. Yale University
4. Princeton University
5. Stanford University
6. MIT
7. Cornell University

2018 Industry Destinations

Post-Graduate Academic Programs
Of the seniors who enter graduate school immediately upon graduation, 2014-2018

Financial Services / Business / Consulting
n = 44
Average Salary: $72,857
Median Salary: $72,500

Research (Medical, Economic, Policy, Other)
n = 34
Average Salary: $43,043
Median Salary: $42,500

Technology / Engineering
n = 31
Average Salary: $93,519
Median Salary: $97,500

Nonprofit / Public Service
n = 11
Average Salary: $29,286
Median Salary: $20,000

Law
n = 11
Average Salary: $44,167
Median Salary: $42,500

Education / Teaching
n = 7
Average Salary: $43,750
Median Salary: $52,500

Overall Average Salary: $63,485
Overall Median Salary: $57,500

Advanced Fields of Study:

Math & Physical Sciences 31%
Life Sciences 20%
Humanities 19%
Social Sciences 18%
Engineering 13%
“Stay open-minded when you're first trying to find an opportunity that interests you. Once you find that opportunity, see if a Swat alum currently works there and reach out to learn about the skills needed to succeed in that role. Once you have that information, you can craft a strong application that'll help you stand out from others.”

- Kimberly Rosa-Perez '18

“The Truman Scholarship, along with all other nationally competitive opportunities, cannot be successfully completed last-minute. Treat the internal deadline as though it is your final one; make sure you have a solid application long before the final deadline. If you make it to the Finalist stage, know that it is important to focus on mental preparation - be emotionally prepared to handle an intense interview, anxiety, and deeply contemplate the possibility of loss and how you might cope.”

- Taylor Morgan ‘19

Clare Perez '18
Goldberg Kohn
False Claims Act Analyst

Looking Forward:
Doing meaningful and substantial work and getting valuable experience before law school, while also getting to wear jeans Monday-Friday (unless I meet with a client or go to court) !!

Word of Advice:
Apply to as many jobs as you can!

Rida Hassan '18
AQR Capital Management
Business Development Analyst

Looking Forward:
I’m really excited to begin my career at a firm that values intense intellectual curiosity of the kind that Swarthmore has so deeply ingrained in me over the past 4 years.

Word of Advice:
Make an effort to identify careers that will be a good fit for your personality - don’t write off opportunities without exploring them, and don’t pursue a particular path simply because everyone else around you is doing so.

Used Career Services for:
Reviewing application materials, search strategies, meetings with career counselor
**STUDENT REFLECTIONS**

**Ryan Kennedy '18**
United States Peace Corps

**Looking Forward:**
The opportunity to meet new people, learn about a new culture, and share my experiences with people unfamiliar with the US

**Word of Advice:**
Stay positive and open-minded! I wasn't sure what I wanted to do for a long time. Patience and confidence is the key to success.

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**Peiwen Zhang '18**
Nomura
Global Markets Analyst

**Looking Forward:**
I am also looking forward to putting to good use the quantitative and critical thinking skills that I learned at Swarthmore.

**Word of Advice:**
I have been amazed by how strong our alumni community is - people are always happy to help! Just remember to always be respectful of their time and have a thoughtful list of questions ready. Always write thank-you notes!

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“Especially for students interested in Finance, reach out to as many alumni as possible. I reached out to two per week my summer before my senior year and spoke with over twenty alumni. Even if a job offer does not result directly from reaching out to alumni, it is great practice at telling your story.”

- Andrew Kaufmann ‘18

“Try to identify older students who have gotten the internship or job that you want. They often have the best advice about how to get hired.”

- Doug Leonard ‘19
In 2017-18, Career Services engaged 62% of the total student body.

Student Interactions
Student Interactions include individual counseling appointments, drop-in advising sessions, workshops, recruiting events, and other programs.

2017-18
2,920 student interactions

Engagement by Class Year
- Overall: 62%
- Seniors: 70%
- Juniors: 55%
- Sophomores: 64%
- First Years: 58%

Engagement by Race and Ethnicity
By examining our usage patterns from vantage points including race and ethnicity, we can better identify any students who would benefit from targeted outreach to make them aware of our resources and services:

- 70% Asian
- 62% Multi
- 56% Multi/Latinx
- 68% Black
- 60% Multi/Asian
- 59% Not Indicated
- 53% Latinx/Hispanic
- 58% Multi/Black
- 58% White

Career Peer Advisors
What do our CPAs do?
- Help you brainstorm your previous experiences to build a resume, CV, and cover letter.
- Help you perfect your existing resume and tweak it to suit an opportunity when you are ready to apply.
- Help you prepare for an interview!

CPA assistance by the numbers
311 students helped by our CPAs

Drop-In hours every weekday afternoon from 1:00-4:30pm
SOCIAL MEDIA

This year we developed a stronger social media presence through the following:

**INSTAGRAM:** This year we have adopted the practice of posting Instagram Stories to provide students with a secondary feed of up-to-date reminders on Career Services’ various events and opportunities. Our most popular posts include information about our students such as the “Student Success Story” campaign, which highlights students who have successfully navigated the job/internship search process.

Our Instagram following has increased 25% since last year from 338 to 422.

**FACEBOOK:** Our Facebook page has been our long-standing "go-to" for promoting our events and sharing resources with the community, as we have found it is the social media outlet students universally use the most. [https://www.facebook.com/SwatCareers/](https://www.facebook.com/SwatCareers/)

The number of people following our Facebook page grew from 919 followers to 952.

**TWITTER:** Twitter’s audience is primarily alumni. However, Career Services uses this platform to share events that other offices are holding or resources that would be more appropriate for this group.

Our Twitter page has grown from 281 to 308 followers this year.

**LINKEDIN:** We moderate the LinkedIn group Swatties Helping Swatties. This group facilitates mentoring between students and alumni. [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4339977/profile](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/433977/profile)

To date, our LinkedIn group Swatties Helping Swatties has 1500+ members.

The Career Services website offers a comprehensive look into career development topics, provides information about majors and careers, post-graduate outcomes, job and internship databases and more.

Visit us at: [http://www.swarthmore.edu/career-services.xml](http://www.swarthmore.edu/career-services.xml)

COUNSELING APPOINTMENTS

2017-18
817 Counseling appointments

373 unique students; of whom 58% returned for subsequent appointment(s)

FOCUS OF COUNSELING APPOINTMENTS

- Interview Preparation (24%)
- Job Search (22%)
- Internship Search (18%)
- Career Exploration (16%)
- Resume/Cover Letter Review (11%)
- Graduate School Advising (4%)
- Self-Awareness (3%)

DEMOGRAPHICS OF COUNSELING APPOINTMENTS

- Seniors (47%)
- Juniors (22%)
- Sophomores (14%)
- First Years (11%)
- Alumni (7%)

Demand for Interview Preparation rose by 60% compared to 2016-17
What is career education? Developing one’s knowledge of self—interests, skills, values, commitments, personality type—is critical to students’ career development. We believe career development is preparation for life and our mission is to complement students’ academic preparation with education about careers and life beyond Swarthmore. Career Services counsels students through the process of self discovery and provides programs and services to educate students about career possibilities and promote their professional skills development.

Orientation Programming

SWATcademics: In collaboration with the Dean’s office, Registrar and the Library, this event was our first chance to meet the Class of 2021. We provided an overview of the ways we assist students in their career development, offering narratives for how we counsel individual students in their first year at Swarthmore.

Orientation Tours: By meeting with small groups of students visiting our office in 135 Parrish, we were able to highlight services and programs for first years.

Management Consulted

To support our students engaged in consulting recruitment, we initiated a partnership with Management Consulted to host an on-site Consulting Bootcamp on Saturday, September 16th, attended by 66 students. The agenda included Networking for Consulting, the Consulting Fit Interview, Resume and Cover Letter Overview, Case Structure and Purpose, Case Frameworks, and Case Math and Creative Questions.

In addition to the bootcamp, this partnership provides students with access to their School Subscription Program, a self-guided consulting prep program with online video courses and 550+ sample cases, as well as one hour live coaching sessions.

SwatTank (Innovation Incubator)

SwatTank, an idea competition, focuses on an inclusive model, one that provides students with the opportunity to take a rough idea, product, or concept and develop it towards its next incarnation, ideation, or realization. SwatTank represents a collaboration between Career Services, the Center for Innovation and Leadership, and the Lang Center for Civic & Social Responsibility in support of students’ development. 18 teams registered to be part of SwatTank this year, more than ever before. The SwatTank Innovation Competition was held on Friday, April 6, 2018 at the Inn at Swarthmore.
Collaboration with Faculty & Alumni

Each career counselor is a liaison to 4-5 academic departments, regularly communicating with faculty about resources and opportunities for their students and partnering with departments on programs for students. This year we visited each academic department to share postgrad plans for their majors, our annual report and calendar of events. Shared initiatives included:

How to Make a Difference in Public Policy: Keith Benjamin ’09 and Mark Harkins ’87
Our alumni speakers explored the intersection of work in social impact, advocacy, community building, NGOs, state, local and federal government.

Diverse Careers for Economics Students
Co-sponsored with the Economics department, students spoke with Board Chair Tom ’78 and Linda Spock, Jenny Pérez ’05, Chris Collins ’90, Katherine Vanderhook-Gomez ’97 and Ben

Media Relations, Crisis Communications & the Business of Sports and Entertainment
Jeff Heckelman ’02 discussed his path from Swarthmore to his current role as VP at Finbury, a global strategic communications firm.

Data Analytics Careers with Cong Cao ’07
Cong Cao ’07, Director of Demand Generation and Marketing for Personal Capital, shared her career path and how data analytics applies to marketing strategy and advertising tech usage.

Tech Recruiting with Cathy Polinsky ’99
Board member Cathy Polinsky ’99, Chief Technology Officer at Stitch Fix, hosted a talk for over 50 students on navigating the application, interview and offer processes in tech.

Actuarial Careers with Becky Sielman ’85
Becky Sielman ’85 discussed the many and varied options for actuaries, skills needed, and ways for liberal arts majors to explore and prepare for actuarial careers.

Stats and Sports with Shingo Murata ’07
Shingo Murata ’07 discussed his responsibilities at the Baseball Strategy Group ranging from collecting, organizing, and maintaining player data to producing reports for coaches and scouts. This event was co-sponsored by the Center for Innovation and Leadership and the Math and Statistics department.

Investment Banks, Investing and Banking Explained with Tomo Kodama ’87
This session offered a thorough overview for students wanting to learn more about various divisions within an investment bank and for those trying to discover their best fit.

Frank 5 Fellows Liberal Arts Career Panel
We partnered with Pam Shropshire in the Aydelotte Foundation to host a career panel on September 28 featuring the young alumni who are the inaugural class of Frank 5 Fellows: Nell Bang-Jensen ’11, Marissa Davis ’08, Kimberly St. Julian-Varnon ’12, Dr. Kara Peterman ’09, and Sam Sussman ’13.

Career Development Course
SEEKERS is our six week career development course, covering topics such as self-assessment, career search, interviewing and professional communication, allowing students to learn and share with one another as they work towards a common goal. This year we used design thinking to re-imagine the course, helping our liberal arts students link what they are learning in the classroom to meaningful ways to make a difference in their careers.
Experiential Learning

Extern Program 2018
The Extern Program offers students opportunities to learn about potential career paths during a one-week mentoring program, thanks in large part to the gracious volunteerism of alumni, parents and friends of the College.

In the 2018 Senior Survey, **42% of our seniors reported having completed at least one externship prior to graduation.**

342 students registered
341 externships available
293 workplace and/or homestay mentors
224 students participated in externships

Major Extern Locations:
- Boston
- Chicago
- Washington, DC
- Los Angeles
- New York
- Philadelphia
- San Francisco
- Seattle

**REGISTRATION BY CLASS YEAR**
- **47** Seniors—21% of registrants
- **50** Juniors—22% of registrants
- **85** Sophomores—38% of registrants
- **42** First Years—19% of registrants

**EXTERN and MENTOR COMMENTS:**

I really enjoyed being able to get exposure to an atmosphere as a sophomore that I wouldn’t normally have access to until after my junior or senior year. I learned a ton about an industry in just four days.  

Student '20

I’m writing to share the exciting news that my first two externs will be enrolling in the next UNC School of Medicine class. I’m pleased that I’ve had the opportunity to get to know them and know they’ll become outstanding physicians. I don’t believe they would have learned about UNC and applied to the medical school without the extern program. I've enjoyed serving as a mentor and the experience of re-connecting to Swarthmore.

Gary Winzelberg '90, MD
Internships

Due to generous contributions by alumni donors, Career Services offered full internship funding to 27 students in Summer 2018.

I learned about the potential for individuals to shape industries, rather than be shaped by them. I was exposed to great thinkers in data analytics, software development, health technology, and those who found themselves at the intersection of all of these fields. Being able to work alongside individuals of this caliber led to a realization that you can control your career path, and if there isn’t a career path you find that suits you there’s nothing stopping you from creating one.

Student ‘19

Experiential Summer Fellows:

16 students were awarded grants in 2018 to extend their one week externship into a fully funded summer internship.

69% of the class of 2018 completed at least one internship prior to graduation.

Swarthmore Future Entrepreneurs

We funded 11 students with internships in local startups through our collaboration with Ben Franklin Technology Partnership:

Colin Salama ‘19
Arya Jemal ‘19
Kayla Camacho ‘19
Judy Al ‘19
Daniel Lee ‘20
Naja Smith ‘20
Jack Cote ‘20
Jasmine Charles ‘20
Getulio Valentín Sánchez ‘21
George Rubin ‘21
Grace Dumdaw ‘21

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Student ‘19

Class of 2018 Internship Sector Breakdown:

- Nonprofit (44%)
- For-profit (44%)
- Government (12%)

Not only have I honed financial skills, I also gained fresh perspectives about how successful businesses operate and how leadership is practiced in the workplace—neither of which are taught in classrooms.

Student ‘18

Class of 2018 Internship Sector Breakdown:

- Nonprofit (44%)
- For-profit (44%)
- Government (12%)

Not only have I honed financial skills, I also gained fresh perspectives about how successful businesses operate and how leadership is practiced in the workplace—neither of which are taught in classrooms.

Student ‘18

Internships

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69% of the class of 2018 completed at least one internship prior to graduation.
The Experiential Summer Fellowship program provides funding for students who have participated in the Extern Program during winter break and return to that workplace for a summer internship, mentored by their extern sponsor.

Thirteen students were awarded grants in Summer 2017:

NETWORKING & MENTORING

Wall Street Reception

41 students networked with 46 alumni from organizations including Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Citi, Credit Suisse, Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan, Morgan Stanley, Nomura and Deloitte at our 12th annual Wall Street student and alumni networking reception in New York.

Exploring Finance & Consulting Careers

Nine alumni visited campus this spring for a program attended by over 70 students interested in learning about consulting and finance to determine future career paths. The evening began with a consulting alumni panel, moderated by Board member Koof Kalkstein ’78 and including Manuk Garg ’12 (McKinsey), Anne-Marie Frassica ’09 (McKinsey), Saty Rao ’15 (A.T. Kearney) and Michael Brochu (BCG). Next was a finance alumni panel, moderated by Charlie Sussman ’05 (BAML) and including Ben Drylie-Perkins ’06 (Goldman Sachs), James Parchment ’90 (S&P) and Anastasia White-Torruellas ‘16 (BAML). The evening concluded with networking roundtables, led by alumni and experienced students who shared their advice and insight about the internship search.

International Student & Alumni Networking Dinner

We joined the Director of the International Student Center in hosting the annual International Student and Alumni Dinner, featuring 13 international alumni who returned to campus to network with 33 students and offer their perspective on navigating the employment process as an international student.

Alumni Student Networking Dinner

We partner with the Office of Alumni & Parent Engagement and 40+ Alumni Council members to offer this meaningful networking opportunity to over 100 students annually.

In 2018, over 100 alumni returned to campus to provide career advice and mentor our students.
In the Fall we launched Handshake, our new recruiting platform. Handshake has dramatically improved student access to employers and opportunities and has enhanced our TriCo recruiting partnership with Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges. Through Handshake, students have access to over 200,000 employers and thousands of full-time and internship opportunities. As a result of this partnership, Career Services has been able to significantly diversify the types of employers and opportunities available to Swarthmore students. Handshake has an intuitive interface that allows our office to engage with students more effectively while using data to help students learn about events and opportunities that best match their goals and interests. We have received very positive feedback from students and employers about the new resource.

Our Handshake partnership has resulted in 5 times more job opportunities for our students.

Upgrades to Career Closet, Employer Interview and Information Session Space

With the installation of state-of-the-art equipment and technology in our recruiting space, we have been able to expand our reach to employers across the world. Throughout the year we hosted a number of sessions connecting students with alumni and employers that otherwise would not have been possible without the support of the generous donor who funded this transformation. We have virtually hosted alumni from firms including Bain & Company, Susquehanna International Group and Shingo Murata '07 from Japan, who spoke about using statistics with the Baseball Strategy Group.

Additionally, students who are studying abroad have been able to video-interview with employers who are conducting on-campus interviews. This has helped students be more confident in their applications and put their minds at ease knowing they are not missing an opportunity to interview with a firm while they are gaining experience abroad. In such a short time, we can already feel the impact the new technology has given our office in recruitment, career education and alumni engagement.

On-Campus Recruiting and Off-Campus Recruiting Events

On-Campus Recruiting

In addition to formal recruiting efforts, throughout the year employers visit campus and creatively engage students in learning about their industries and organizations. Facebook brought a team of their engineers to campus for a lunch time session on workplace culture, their hiring timeline and the career trajectory for Facebook employees. Google visited campus over two days to meet with students including our Women in Computer Science (WiCS) group to discuss internships, full-time opportunities and life as a Googler. Google also held a resume workshop and a live technical interviewing demonstration for students.

Recruiting Consortia: Career Fairs and Interview Days

Partnering with peer institutions to cosponsor interview days and career fairs is an excellent way for us to broaden student access to a wider range of employers. Swarthmore participates in a total of seven recruiting consortium events, including the Fall Recruiting Consortium in NY (FRC), BioLink DC, Philadelphia Career Connection, STEM Recruiting Day, DC IMPACTlink, DC Government and Nonprofit EXPO and the Philadelphia Nonprofit & Public Service Career Fair.
FALL RECRUITING CONSORTIUM (FRC) Interview day sponsored by Swarthmore, Brown, William & Mary, Union, Bard and Connecticut Colleges, in New York. Employers included:

- Aledade
- American Enterprise Institute
- City Year
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
- Cigna
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- D.E. Shaw
- Educator’s Ally
- FactSet
- FDIC
- Jane Street
- M&T Bank
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering
- Morningstar
- Rockefeller University
- Teach for America
- The Lewin Group
- TransPerfect
- Translations
- Weill Cornell Medical College

23 students submitted 43 applications and received 19 interviews

DC CAREER EXPO

We co-sponsored this DC recruiting event at Georgetown, where 26 students connected with 100+ think tanks, government agencies and nonprofits including:

- Aspen Institute
- CIA
- Center for Strategic & Int’l Security
- Carter Center
- CBO
- NIH
- Council on Foreign Relations
- Center for Strategic & Int’l Security
- USAID
- Security
- Peace Corps
- SEC
- US Dept of Justice

Swarthmore, Brown, Yale, Duke and UVA students interviewed with the following employers at our annual DC event:

- Aledade
- American Enterprise Institute
- City Year
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
- EAB
- Hanover Research
- Headfirst
- Laserfiche
- Optoro
- RespectAbility
- SmartBrief
- The Advisory Board Company
- The Lewin Group
- Woodrow Wilson Int’l Center for Scholars

33 students submitted 68 applications and received 31 interviews

DC IMPACTlink

BioLink DC

Co-sponsored by the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, this new consortium event connects students with employers including:

- Amgen
- AMPLE BioSolutions
- FDA CDRH
- K2M
- National Ground Intelligence Center
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Philadelphia Nonprofit and Public Service Career Fair

Hosted at Bryn Mawr, this event provides a forum for students to learn about a variety of employers in the nonprofit and public service sectors, including:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters Center for Family Services
- Change Corps
- City of Philadelphia Devereux Pennsylvania EducationWorks
- Elmwood Park Zoo
- Grenzebach Glier Intercultural Family Services
- Let’s Get Ready
- Quaker Vol. Service Urban Teachers
- US Dept of State
- Wilmington Friends
Swarthmore broadens its recruiting reach by collaborating with our TriCo colleagues at Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges on recruiting initiatives including on campus interviewing, recruiting events and career fairs.

**TRI-COLLEGE ON CAMPUS RECRUITING EMPLOYERS, 2017-18**

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**PHILADELPHIA CAREER CONNECTION (PCC)**

The Philadelphia Career Connection (PCC) and STEM Recruiting events are two Tri-College recruiting days where students from Swarthmore, Haverford and Bryn Mawr have the opportunity to attend a morning career fair followed by afternoon interviews with employers from the Greater Philadelphia area. For the first time this year we merged the two recruiting days; the combined event took place on Friday, January 26, 2018 and featured over 40 employers.

**PHILADELPHIA STEM EVENT**

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<td>Compass Lexecon</td>
<td>eBay</td>
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<td>Bryn Mawr Fellowship</td>
<td>Consumer Financial Protection</td>
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<td>CardConnect</td>
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<td>Camey, Sandoe</td>
<td>Elite Scholars of China</td>
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<td>Facebook</td>
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<td>PIRG Campus Action</td>
<td>Quaker Voluntary Service</td>
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<td>Urban Teachers</td>
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Swarthmore students submitted 449 applications and conducted 81 interviews.
“We have a strong legacy of Swarthmore graduates who have been incredibly successful at Analysis Group, at all levels of the firm. The particularly diverse academic and extracurricular background that Swarthmore students typically possess prepares them well for the range of cases and other challenges that await them here.”
Robert Vigil, Analysis Group Principal, Washington, D.C.

“CRA has recruited at Swarthmore for over twenty years because we find the students to be analytically rigorous as well as exceptionally prepared and enthusiastic to tackle complicated questions that involve business strategy and economics. And just as important, Swarthmore students are a very friendly bunch who work well with others.”
– Steve Klette, Principal, Antitrust

“We love recruiting at Swarthmore as it is very clear that the student body reflects a diverse pool of strong leadership with a deep moral compass. Given the intimate setting of campus, there are plenty of strong leadership experiences to go around which enable students to develop perseverance and grit organically. We’ve all been at schools where finding top talent can be challenging— for Swarthmore, all it takes is setting foot on campus.”
Ladimir Geake, Recruitment Manager, Teach for America

“Swarthmore’s engineering students are exactly the kind of people companies like Google search for: whip-smart, kind, collaborative, and delightfully quirky. The CS department in particular produces students of a caliber matched only by world-class research institutions like MIT and Carnegie Mellon. The humility and genuine passion for making the world a better place that Swatties have make them incredibly desirable. With Swarthmore, not only are we hiring great engineers, we’re hiring great coworkers and new friends.”
– Brendan Collins, University Programs Expansion Specialist, Google