MAGNET

Sep. 30, 2014

5:30pm

Sriya and Sandra

* Guy in corner sitting with crossed legs on computer
* Group studying at one table, interacts with a group studying at another table; they are part of the same class
* Nobody is using the projectors available for them
* People with food really spread out on the tables
* Around this time, the whole area is pretty empty; probably because everyone is in class
* Students seem to prefer to sit in the single chairs with attached table top, than at tables (especially those who are studying alone)
* Everyone is studying/working on computers or tablets; no books or pen/pencil
* A professor approaches and talks to a student at a table
  + Prof. McMillan talks to our fellow student, Helen, about the feasibility of a project idea she has and the skill set she has being not quite what is needed for his project but that he would love to have her involved in it regardless
* The portable white board actually gets used in MAGNET; the used one looks like it was used to keep track of scores in a game
* Students prefer to sit on the black regular chairs as opposed to the sofas
* Though MAGNET does not define itself as a quiet studying place like a library, it is much quieter than Dibner
* Equal numbers of men and women visible; a greater ethnic diversity as well
* Teachers often talk to students in the lobby; professors are generally more visible here than in Dibner
* Window views are killer!

HELEN CAREY - interview

Grad; 1st year

easily distracted by noise; likes noise

likes a place where she can take out her stuff, so she prefers an academic place for safety

depends on project, but building stuff (inidvidually), but reading/writing/discussing (group)

if technology goes whack, she can get it fixed

doesn’t do much besides study or class; sometimes eats here for convenience

hasn’t used any of the games or anything

studying - night person; best work is at night; notetaker during class; learn by doing