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The Hive is mostly a space in the Library that is only accessible to doctoral
researchers, so in the first place – it’s a very good place if you want to come to work
obviously and if you want to have some peace, there is usually, always some space for
researchers so it’s not as crowded as the rest of the library. I think it’s just great that
there is a space, that is recognised for people that are doing research here because
our needs are probably a bit different from everyone else and it’s good that these are
appreciated by the University and the Library in this case. We also have two
bookable rooms.
It’s also more than a work space, the Scholars are trying to create a sort of
community out of it, basically we’re here to promote the Hive, to use the work space,
as a base for a community, so we’re expected to organise events and to be in touch
with the other bodies of the University and somehow we have to distinguish the
Library / Researcher to make it more of an experience than just a place that you can
work.
To add to that, I think also it’s, as Marianela said, it’s not just a place, it’s a sort of
mentality as well, it’s the idea of being busy but also connected. I think we’re also
really keen this year to promote interdisciplinary research for example, I’ve just
mentioned that I’m researching home, but as we started talking we realised that that
is also a theme, common to your economics research, so one of things we’re thinking
about doing a Wikipedia editathon, where we can develop some cross disciplinary
ideas and research by editing Wikipedia pages, so that’s something we’re thinking of
doing. But also the fact that we are tuned in, we’re researchers as well, so we know
what it’s like to be a researcher right now, not five years ago, or whatever else, maybe
ten years ago.