February 13, 2020

To: Dr. Joanne Smith  
Vice President for Student Affairs

From: Mr. Kenneth R. Pierce  
Vice President for Information Technology


The Student Government passed the “Studious Student Safety Act”; a resolution focused on student safety. One of the key elements of the resolution involved access to the Albert B. Alkek Library, which falls under the responsibility of the Division of Information Technology.

Previously, I responded that the resolution would be taken under advisement as we worked through the extensive renovations within the library. Since we take the safety of students on campus very seriously, we ensured that the resolution was considered as part of the renovations.

As a result of our efforts, we intend to implement a card access entry policy for the library that will only allow patrons with a valid university-issued identification card access to the Alkek Library after 11 p.m. While the resolution recommended card access entry after 9 p.m., our viability study and examination of library usage determined that a 9 p.m. start time for card access entry may not be feasible given the high patron volume at that time. However, we will monitor the effects of the new policy and may adjust it in the future.

We plan to implement the new access controls on February 17, 2020.

KRP:ws

xc: Dr. Gene Bourgeois  
Dr. Margarita Arellano  
Ms. Joan Heath