



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Professor Jennifer English, Faculty Senate President

**FROM:** Vistasp M. Karbhari, Provost and Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs

**SUBJECT:** Resolution 10/11-3

**DATE:** January 3, 2011

While we have discussed the topic and actions are already being taken as related to enhancing security in the Library, and across campus, I am writing to formally document a response to the resolution per your request.

Security and safety of all on the University campus is of paramount importance and we are constantly endeavoring to enhance the level of safety across campus. The issue of access to the Library has to be carefully implemented since it serves not only UAHuntsville personnel but also personnel from NASA, Redstone and the local community including students from nearby schools, colleges and universities under long standing agreements. Further, we serve as a Federal Depository and hence have to provide accessibility to the public during regular business hours.

While the swipe card system does exist currently, its details are such that cards do not carry any visible identification and have been provided in the past on a fairly ad-hoc basis, making tracking and identification extremely difficult, if not impossible. We are assessing the steps to be taken for the implementation of a more comprehensive system that would potentially include use of government issued identification for non-UAHuntsville personnel along with specially provided access cards with identification for regular non UAHuntsville users. This would also include the addition of staff to operate the front desk for purposes of access. Community users desiring routine access to the Library would be charged a nominal annual fee for access.

Given the issues related to computer access by non UAHuntsville personnel we are also investigating the use of software that would limit the total usage by a non-registered non-UAHuntsville Library patron similar to that in use by public libraries. The implementation of this needs to be carefully coordinated so as not to inconvenience registered users while also ensuring that we maintain and enhance our ability to ensure that electronic resources and data bases are only available to users in keeping with the appropriate legal agreement details.

There are a number of associated issues such as agreements with other entities that need to be addressed as well and I will be continuing to work this year with the interim Director of the Library, Mr. David Moore, the Chief of Police, and our facilities office to implement changes in a comprehensive way.