

A RESOLUTION TO

To Show Student Support for the Promotion of the African and African American Studies (AAAS) Program to the Status of a Department.

WHEREAS, African and African American Studies is currently a program within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and is currently applying for Departmental Status; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating significant student support is an integral part of the application process; and

WHEREAS, the LSU Student Senate collectively represents the 30,000 students of LSU; and

WHEREAS, we believe that students of all backgrounds, majors, and degree paths benefit from the faculty, courses, and educational enrichment offered by the African and African American Studies Program; and

WHEREAS, students who have taken African and African American Studies courses listed the following benefits the courses provided them:

1. "AAAS helps students be able to connect to our heritage."
2. "The information that is taught in the AAAS classes is very important in understanding what race and racism really is and how it is a part of our everyday lives."
3. "Being able to speak and listen to the professors that teach the classes so passionately."
4. "We are given the opportunity to increase the presence of Black educators in the classroom and an increase of courses that can truly help our students understand the magnitude of our society today."
5. "I believe that having a department dedicated to it would lead to students feeling more included and respected. While it would highlight students of color, it would also provide more resources to educate students who are interested in expanding their knowledge. It would create more inclusivity among students who are marginalized."
6. "We need more Black educators in our education system. We need more Black history in our education system. We need our Black students to feel welcomed and cared for in our education system. A great opportunity for all of this to get accomplished is to have AAAS to become its own department."
7. "Our AAAS faculty and staff provide us with off-campus opportunities to encounter and experience black culture and heritage beyond what we learn during class"

8. "AAAS coursework is interdisciplinary, which allows students to develop a well-rounded understanding of African and African-American studies through various other degree programs and educational perspectives.
9. "The variety of classes eligible for AAAS credit provides interested students a foundation if they desire to learn more and pursue the program beyond shared courses."
10. "AAAS fills in historical gaps and clarifies detail from American and international history that's too specific for general classes or out-of-place in lesson plans."

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED BY THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE, that we wholeheartedly support the African and African American Studies Program's application for Departmental Status.

THEREFORE IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SUBMITTED TO Dr. Stephen C. Finley, Director of the African and African American Studies Program at LSU, Dr. Staycie Haynie, LSU Provost.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE by a simple majority (one-half plus one) vote of the LSU Student Senate and signature by the Student Body President, upon lapse of time for presidential action, or if vetoed by the President and subsequently approved by the Senate, on the date of such approval

APPROVED:

Justin Martin

JUSTIN MARTIN
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

DATE: 6-4-20

Stone Cox

STONE COX
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

DATE: 6-11-20