

10/31/19

TO: Dr. Monica Coleman
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Africana Studies

FROM: W.O. Maloba



Chair
Department of Africana Studies

Support for the MA and Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies

I am writing to express my strong support for the establishment of MA and Graduate Certificate in the department of Africana Studies (AFRA). This is the culmination of determined efforts by all the faculty in the department. Under the guidance of the Graduate Studies Committee, the department has worked tirelessly for over two years toward this end.

The benefits of establishing a graduate program in AFRA are immense. They include serving as an attraction to potential faculty applicants for positions at UD. Students, even beyond AFRA, will also be attracted to UD. It signals a serious commitment by the UD administration to AFRA and even diversity. It is also hoped that this effort will be the department's contribution toward UD's declared goal of diversifying admitted graduate students at this university. Many of the admitted students will later go for doctoral studies and become university faculty. In this way, AFRA's graduate program will help in the diversification of the professoriate.

All faculty in the department have some experience with teaching graduate students. All of them are respected scholars with national and international reputation. Thus, the department is equipped to launch and sustain a high caliber graduate program.