**RESOLUTION FOR GRADUATE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS,  the Department of Africana Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences has offered a successful program for the BA in Africana Studies offering knowledge and scholarly analysis on the roles and contributions of African Americans in the USA and of black people in the diaspora, and

WHEREAS,    the Department of Africana Studies has received many inquiries over the last several years from individuals who are interested in pursuing graduate study, and

WHEREAS,    the Department of Africana Studies has proposed a regionally and nationally competitive graduate program of study for students, which will offer critical exposure to the multidisciplinary study of people and cultures of African descent in the United States, Caribbean, Latin America, Africa and Europe for greater depth of knowledge in professional careers and a crucial step on the pipeline of the professoriate, and

WHEREAS,     the existing faculty and affiliated faculty in Africana Studies can provide a majority of the courses and administrative framework for such a degree, and

WHEREAS,     the proposed graduate program contributes to the goals on the College’s and University’s Strategic Plans to diversify the student body and the professoriate, be it therefore

RESOLVED,   that the Faculty Senate recommends provisionally for five years the approval of the establishment of a new Master’s of Arts in Africana Studies.