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,    a Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies meets the need for academic inquiry and excellence at the graduate level spanning the experiences, history and perspectives of African heritage peoples, and enhance professional development in a range of careers and professions where knowledge and increased understanding of Black communities past and present are important - including education, health sciences, public health, public service, political advocacy, social welfare, museum curatorship, cinema studies and teaching, and

WHEREAS,    a certificate allows master’s and doctoral students in other disciplines to amplify the Africana analysis in their own course of study, whether they are exploring a specific area reflected in their course of study, or pursuing employment for which a certificate in Africana Studies is deemed an advantage, 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 Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies.