

Faculty Senate Resolution

29 November, 2016

WHEREAS the SUNY Cortland faculty recognizes that the Africana Studies Department must be expanded beyond the current staffing level, which includes not a single line for tenure-track fulltime faculty; and

WHEREAS Cortland is the only campus in the SUNY System with an Africana Studies Department that has no fulltime tenure track faculty; and

WHEREAS the Africana Studies Department is a fully developed, degree-offering department with majors and minors; and

WHEREAS the current Department Chair is a fulltime faculty member in another department and has for several years taken on a score of administrative and otherwise supportive responsibilities in Africana Studies as well as in the other department; and

WHEREAS departments of the College are defined by the establishment and funding of faculty lines; and

WHEREAS new faculty lines and/or joint appointments in the Africana Studies Department will demonstrate SUNY Cortland's continuing commitment to and furtherance of multicultural and global education, in order "to create a **learning environment needed to develop the extraordinary leaders who will succeed in an increasingly culturally diverse and globalized society**" (SUNY Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion); and

WHEREAS these new faculty lines and/or joint appointments will demonstrate the College's compliance with SUNY's policy to promote appreciation for cultural and ethnic difference by augmenting course offerings in its Race/Ethnicity curriculum; and

WHEREAS SUNY Cortland is committed to prioritize attracting, admitting, and retaining a higher proportion of students from racially and ethnically under-represented minority groups; and

WHEREAS the current political climate requires that the College renew its commitment to Africana Studies by taking immediate and decisive action to avert bias-related conduct;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the SUNY Cortland Faculty Senate hereby urges the SUNY Cortland administration to create faculty lines and/ or joint appointments by Autumn, 2017 to support the Africana Studies Department.

In the Faculty Senate:

Donna E. West
Ross Borden
Shufang Strause