

Text of a motion adopted 01/20/2017 by the faculty of the department  
of Africology and African American Studies (DAAAS)

At a special faculty meeting of the department of Africology and African American Studies (DAAAS) held today, 01/20/2017, the faculty of the department formally deliberated upon a 10-point plan advanced in October 2016 by representatives of African American students at Eastern Michigan University. After the deliberation, which focused upon aspects of the 10-point plan that are related to the department of Africology and African American Studies, the faculty, sitting as the Executive Committee of the department, adopted the following motion.

Whereas the faculty of the department wish to congratulate and commend the general vision reflected in the students' 10-point plan about the essential role and place of the department of Africology and African American Studies within Academic Affairs at Eastern Michigan University,

Whereas the faculty of the department of Africology and African American Studies believe that, in advancing the 10-point plan, as published in the Eastern Echo edition of 10/09/16, the overall intent of the students is to strengthen, and not weaken, the stability, viability and sustainability of our department,

Whereas the faculty of the department of Africology and African American Studies welcome and are inspired by point #9 of the students' 10-point plan,

Whereas the department is currently evaluating a comprehensive proposal for a Master of Arts & Science degree in Africology and African American Studies,

Whereas the department regularly offers a flexible range of options for EMU students who wish to enrich their undergraduate learning experience by majoring or minoring in African American Studies, by double-majoring in African American Studies and any other discipline of their choice, or by completing certificate-level programs in undergraduate African Studies and graduate African American Studies,

Whereas the department also regularly offers a range of course options by which interested EMU students can adopt Africology and

African American Studies for purposes of meeting a cross-section of the course requirements of EMU's General Education program, and

Whereas the department also regularly offers a range of course options by which interested EMU students can adopt Africology and African American Studies for purposes of completing "free electives" for their undergraduate degree programs,

The faculty of the department of Africology and African American Studies, sitting as the Executive Committee, therefore, resolve as follows:

- 1) Points 2 and 3 of the afore-mentioned students' 10-point plan are neither feasible nor desirable;
  - a. With regards to point #2, it's apropos to note that through EMU's General Education program, EMU students are already provided with a multidisciplinary list of course options for exploring and meeting the US diversity section of that program;
  - b. Point #3 of the 10-point plan is eminently threatening to the stability, viability and sustainability of EMU's department of Africology and African American Studies;
- 2) Given that the 10-point plan has not only become a controversial public issue but has also been adopted by Eastern Michigan University as a part of its Strategic Plan, the faculty of the department of Africology and African American Studies respectfully requests that the head of the department of Africology and African American Studies should transmit the text of this motion of 01/20/2017 to EMU's President, the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Arts Council of the College of Arts and Sciences through the Dean's Office, and the recently-constituted President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion; and lastly,
- 3) The faculty also respectfully requests that the Faculty Senate Representative of the department of Africology and African American Studies should transmit the text of this motion of 01/20/2017 to the President of EMU's Faculty Senate.