



TO: SUNY Cortland Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Genevieve Birren  
Chair, SUNY Cortland Faculty Senate

DATE: October 12, 2021

RE: Update of 150.03(VI)(A)(2)(b) of the College Handbook to include the Africana Studies Department

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The Faculty Senate Steering Committee is proposing a change in language to 150.03(VI)(A)(2)(b) of the College Handbook.

Rationale:

The Africana Studies Department is not currently listed as a department within the College Handbook for purposes of Senate representation through senators, senate committees, the school curriculum committee, or the sub-school personnel committee. The Africana Studies Department has historically been made up of faculty with dual appointments in other departments, so those faculty were represented through those other departments. There are now two (2) full-time faculty members assigned exclusively to the Africana Studies Department, one (1) tenure-track and one (1) lecturer and it is reasonable to expect that further faculty will be assigned exclusively or primarily to the Africana Studies Department in the future. Therefore, adding the Africana Studies Department to the list of departments included as Social and Behavioral Sciences is necessary to guarantee all departments have equal access to representation.

Current Language:

150.03(VI)(A)(2)

b. One elected representative from the social and behavioral sciences division (departments of economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology/anthropology),

New Language:

150.03(VI)(A)(2)

b. One elected representative from the social and behavioral sciences division (departments of **Africana studies**, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology/anthropology),