



## Legislation Text

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To congratulate The Ohio State University College of Arts & Science Department of African American and African Studies on 50 years of Educational Excellence

**WHEREAS**, African American and African Studies at The Ohio State University is a proud product of the 1960's Black freedom movement. Originally established as an academic division in October 1969 as Black Studies, it achieved formal department status in 1972 and today enjoys the reputation of being one of the strongest African American and African Studies programs in the nation.

**WHEREAS**, The primary mission of the department is to stimulate teaching and research about the Black experience in the United States, Africa and throughout the African Diaspora, and to encourage students and others to assess various strategies for advancing human progress through the examination of the global struggle for Black freedom.

**WHEREAS**, The Department offers courses leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and a PhD. in African American and African Studies. Their comprehensive multidisciplinary curriculum includes courses in literature, music, history, psychology, sociology, political science, community development and the most extensive offering of African languages (Swahili, Zulu, Twi, Somali and Yoruba) found at any university in the U.S.

**WHEREAS**, The African American and African Studies Department also has a Community Extension Center which serves as both an outreach arm into the large Black community in the city of Columbus as well as a significant resource for faculty and student research and community engagement. For more than twenty years, the Department has also been the home of Research in African Literature, one of the most prestigious journals in African Studies

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:** That this Council does hereby congratulate The Ohio State University College of Arts & Science:  
Department of African American and African Studies on 50 years of Educational Excellence