Resolution 03-1819
Introduced on October 16th of 2018

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Co-Sponsors: Asian American Students in Action, Minority Coalition, Davis Center, Koreans of Williams

A Resolution in Support of the Establishment of Asian American Studies

WHEREAS
Williams College is committed to increasing diversity in the student body and curriculum by instituting the necessary academic and social supports to allow students from diverse backgrounds to thrive at the College;

WHEREAS
Asian American Studies is an interdisciplinary academic field that provides a critical lens for all students to explore the impact of Asian Americans on American experiences, narratives, and histories while also accounting for their diversity within Asian diasporic communities;

WHEREAS
The induction of Maud Mandel as the 18th President of Williams College presents an exciting opportunity for our institution to re-engage with its intellectual project to incorporate the full breadth and complexity of American history;

WHEREAS
Williams College considers itself to be the premier liberal arts institution in the United States, yet lacks the aforementioned integral academic discipline of Asian American Studies;

WHEREAS
Several of our top peer institutions—notably Amherst, Princeton, and Duke—have already established or have committed to establishing Asian American Studies programs;

WHEREAS
Students, faculty, administrators, and alumni have been advocating for the establishment of an Asian American Studies program for at least 28 years with little gain, with two proposals having been submitted in the past and denied;
WHEREAS
Precedent for the establishment of ethnic studies programs at the College, such as with Africana Studies and Latinx Studies, has been the direct result of student-led demonstrations and advocacy;

WHEREAS
Ethnic studies programs at the College have a history of high enrollment and popularity amongst all members of the student body;

WHEREAS
The Williams curriculum lacks an institutional commitment to Asian American Studies. Current courses offered in Asian American Studies are limited in scope and stability due to the small number of faculty and sabbaticals, and even fewer who are trained Asian Americanists;

WHEREAS
Williams College is committed to increasing diversity within the faculty, yet lacks the necessary academic and social supports to bring in Asian Americanist faculty;

WHEREAS
A proposal has been submitted to the Curricular Planning Committee (CPC) and the CPC Working Group will be considering the viability of establishing Asian American Studies throughout the 2018-2019 academic year.

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council:

1. Urges Williams College to publicly commit to the establishment of Asian American Studies by 2023.

2. Demands the allocation of at least 3.0 FTEs in Asian American Studies courses taught by trained Asian Americanists as well as the hiring of professors to adequately meet new FTE allocations by 2023, including a Professor of Asian American History to replace any Asian Americanist professor that leaves by 2022.

3. Commits itself fully to tangible support of the movement activities or auxiliary efforts, in particular from College Council members who have advocated for Asian American Studies throughout their successful election campaigns.

Passed by College Council on October 16\textsuperscript{th} of 2018: 22-0-0