have their primary appointment in CAAS alone, the core faculty would hold joint appointments with existing departments. The Director was to be assisted also by an executive committee and would "report directly to the Dean of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts."

The establishment of CAAS was formally approved by the Regents in the summer of 1970.

From CAAS' inception, the linkage of Afroamerican and African Studies within a single institutional framework precipitated considerable debate among the faculty. The view which prevailed was that the study of Africa, Afroamerica, and the Caribbean within a single intellectual framework was not only defensible but represented the future direction of Black Studies. Indeed, by the mid 1970's, Black Studies had become increasingly conceptualized as the study of Africa and the African Diaspora. CAAS is one of the few Black Studies programs in which the comparative emphasis was built into its structure from the beginning.

A major strength of CAAS has been the interdisciplinary character of its curriculum and the international character of its faculty. In the 1970-71 academic year, CAAS started with a core faculty of 13 teaching a large number of courses relative to its size. The faculty consisted of ten Black Americans, two West Indians, and one African who held appointments either solely in the Center or jointly with other units of the University. In addition, there were four faculty members who taught courses cross-listed with CAAS's offerings but who were not on its budget. These offerings encompassed courses in anthropology, art, education, history, literature, law, psychology, and political