I. Approve minutes from 010/22/10 meeting.  
http://hilo.hawaii.edu/uhh/congress/

II. Report from Chair

III. Executive Committee Report

IV. General Education Committee: Elizabeth Stacy, Chair.

The General Education Implementation Team has been asked to report on implementation of new General Education Curriculum. Specifically,

1) Has the team worked out a way to allow students who enroll in the fall to take "any" certified General Education course during their time here at UHH, without limiting them to "only" those courses certified when they first select a major or if they choose to select the most current catalogue when they graduate? (This will help our students graduate in a more timely manner.)

2) Has the team come up with a plan to provide incentives to faculty and departments to offer more General Education courses? (e.g., provide TAs to large enrollment courses certified for Gen Ed.)

3) Has the team a plan in place to ensure that our incoming Freshmen are able to take Eng 100 in their first year at UHH? (Do we have enough sections and faculty to offer these sections?)

V. Assessment Committee: Report from Seri Luangphinith, Chair.

Motion to approve new members to the Assessment Committee: Susan Brown and Errol Yudko

VI. Academic Policy Committee: Report from Ramon Figueroa-Centeno, Chair.

Motion to approve new members to the Academic Policy Committee: Kale Langlas, Bruce Mathews and James Kamaka Pili (student representative)

VII. Admissions Committee: Report from Emmeline de Pillis, Chair.

Discussion on pre-built schedules for incoming freshmen.

The Psychology Department has offered this position on prebuilt schedules: The psychology department is not against prebuilt schedules per se. In fact, there is some data that support the idea that students from working class backgrounds perform better after reading a portion of Stanford’s website that emphasized the “campus community and group decision-making” rather than a “choice-focused” message
The department is, however, opposed to pre-built schedules being modified without consultation. The department is also concerned that programs are provided with additional resources in situations in which additional sections of courses are needed to fulfill commitments to prebuilt schedules. Therefore the department would like to see a proposal put before congress that pre-built schedules should not be implemented until the process for determining the schedules and compensation is approved by the faculty.

A faculty member, Barry Curtis, Professor of Philosophy, has offered this position:

The "pre-built schedule" idea is ill-conceived both in general and in detail. It will have far-reaching harmful consequences across the curriculum. Take Phil 220 (Social Ethics), for example. This course is already one of the courses listed for the Administration of Justice major, and fills up every time it is offered. In the latest version of the pre-built schedule document, Social Ethics is included in so many pre-built schedules that the Philosophy Department would have to offer additional sections of the course in order to meet demand. As a result, other Phil offerings would have to be cut. This is unacceptable. A similar problem would be created for other departments. For this and other reasons, the curriculum-wrecking "pre-built" schedule program should simply be scrapped. There is no point in tinkering with it. We should let freshmen get some practice in exercising their autonomy in choosing their courses. The development of autonomy is, after all, a major purpose of education, and it is learned through practice. I call upon the CAS Reps to the UHH Congress to propose a resolution of the Congress to the Chancellor opposing the implementation of the pre-built schedule program.

VIII. Budget Committee: Report from Barbara Leonard, Chair.


IX. Curriculum Review Committee: Report from Jean Ippolito, Chair.

An updated log and report on CCRC activities will be given. J. Ippolito will report on all forthcoming new program proposals that need to be reviewed by Congress. New program proposals will be posted on the Congress website as soon as they are approved by the Committee, so that congress members can view them before the end of the month. If there are any problems that need to be addressed, they can be placed on the agenda for the Dec. 10th Faculty Congress meeting.

X. Graduate Liaison Report: Report from Aaron Jacobs.