Dear Faculty Congress,

As Chair of your General Education Committee, I submit the following report:

**Listening Tour**
The chair continues to listen to faculty feedback on the new GE program by meeting with department chairs and receiving feedback via email. Most recent feedback has been on the topic of the dearth of GCC (Global and Community Citizenship) courses. Other feedback included faculty discontent with the long duration between certification and course availability (roughly one and a half years). The chair will continue to reach out to departments to schedule meetings early next semester. Any department with immediate concerns should contact the chair.

**New Applications**
Based on comments received from applicants and numerous problematic applications, the committee finished a revised and more user-friendly application document. The form will be sent out early next semester and applications due in early February 2013. Applications certified by the committee will be available to students for GE credit beginning Fall 2014.

**Preparation of Recertification Document**
Work continues on the recertification document, although it will not be needed until Fall 2014, when courses certified for GE beginning Fall 2011 will need to be re-certified for Fall 2016 to avoid a lapse in certification.

**GE Supply-Demand Modeling**
The chair will meet with the new institutional researcher to ascertain GE course availability.

**ALEX**
One commonly cited problem with the new GE is the lack of GCC certified courses. Over the past two years, GE committees have made a big push to augment offerings, but none are yet in the system due to the time lag between application and the beginning of the certification period. In order to continue to augment these offerings, the chair is working with Tom DeWitt’s new office of Applied Learning Experiences (ALEX) in order to identify additional potential courses for certification. Classes will be identified and committee members will contact faculty who teach those courses in order to recommend certification for GCC.
**WASC Re-Accreditation**
The chair is co-chairing the university’s institutional re-accreditation efforts through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). This year, the GE Committee will be tasked with preparing the first essay in the university’s institutional self-study: “The Meaning, Quality and Integrity of the Degree.” On December 3, 2012, the chair fielded a survey via SurveyMonkey to all faculty, administrators and staff. The survey is a sample of just over half of the questions in the (very long) WASC self-study preparation handbook. The survey will be collected on February 1, 2013. The survey results will be used to inform the self-study report to WASC.

**Writing Intensive Certification**
Karla Hayashi suggests that the Writing intensive Certification Committee be folded into the GE Committee as a subcommittee. She indicated that this is how it works at UH Mānoa. The committee was agreeable to this, but it will take a revision to the Faculty Congress Bylaws to put this charge in the hands of GE.

**Revision of Congress Bylaws Regarding the Committee**
A revision of the Bylaws as pertain to the GE Committee, including folding the WI certification into GE will be submitted to the Faculty Congress.

**The Chair thanks the following members for their service on the 2012-2013 committee:**
Thora Abarca, Library
Norman Anarcon, CAFNRM
Karla Hayashi, CAS-Humanities, Kilohana
Sue Jarvi, Pharmacy
Keisuke Nakao, CoBE
Yumiko Ohara, CHL
Vera Parham, CAS-Social Sciences
Michael Sado, UHSHA

Respectfully,

Todd Belt
Chair, Faculty Congress GE Committee