Aloha Faculty,
I would like to share some good news!

On January 31, the Academic Senate approved three General Education items:

- Robyn Gartner is the new co-chair for the GE Committee, replacing Lou Zitnik. Robyn has been a member of the various GE Committees, including the current one. The English Department will be choosing Robyn's replacement on the GE Committee. I look forward to working with Robyn in her new capacity as co-chair and also working with the new English representative.

- The GE Course Designation process now allows for an OPTIONAL second, secondary designation. What this means is a course application will still be submitted (i.e., using the current procedures) for a Primary designation (must meet all benchmarks in the GE Learning Outcome) and a Secondary designation for Critical Thinking (must meet at least one benchmark in the Critical Thinking GE Learning Outcome). In addition, the course application may also include an OPTIONAL second, secondary designation (must meet at least one benchmark in a GE Learning Outcome outside of the Primary and Critical Thinking).

- ENG 100, ENG 102, PSY 100 & PSY 275/HUM 275 were all approved by the Senate for designation as GE. VCAA Onishi will next seek a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each UH campus for each of these courses to count as GE for articulation purposes. Once the MOUs have been issued, the courses will be forwarded to Chancellor Yamane for final approval.

The GE process is underway due to the work of GE Committee members--Annie Brown (at large, BEaT & CRC Chair), Kenoa Dela Cruz (GSSS & CRC member), Denise D’Haenens-Luker (MATH & CRC member), Robyn Gartner (co-chair), Sam Giordanengo (HUM), Donala Kawa’a'uhau (at-Large, BEaT), Orlo Steele (NSci), Francis-Dean Uchima (Academic Senate Executive Committee) & Mai Wong (Public Services)--and the collaborative work of faculty in several departments--e.g., English & Psychology.

The GE Designation forms and the GE process are being revised to accommodate the addition of the OPTIONAL second, secondary designation. Hopefully the revisions will be posted soon.

If you have any questions, please let Robyn (robyng@hawaii.edu) or me know.
Mahalo,
Ellen