Dear Classmates,

Our 45th reunion is in October. I personally never dreamed I’d survive long enough to enjoy such a heady number, much less to be leading the whole pack of us back to K to celebrate it. Well, life is full of surprises—but we are advised to start minimizing them by actually planning for this event. The more of us come, the more fun, so please, block out the dates on your calendars, wall or virtual, and dust off your dancing shoes. Let’s enjoy a dream weekend on campus, reconnecting with each other and exploring K’s current incarnation. (I personally can’t wait to tour the new Arcus Social Justice Center!) And by the way, the rumors that we are going to be allowed to hold our 50th in Honolulu are unfounded.

Here are some “bullets” to help guide us as we stumble toward our reunion weekend:

- **Save the dates of October 23-25, 2015.** Start making your travel arrangements. Area hotels fill up quickly. You’ll find a list of hotel room blocks at [www.kzoo.edu/homecoming](http://www.kzoo.edu/homecoming). Please mention that you are attending Kalamazoo College’s Homecoming and Reunion Weekend to receive a special rate.

- **Any creative ideas for reunion events?** The College will coordinate our class photo and our Saturday night reunion, along with other Homecoming Weekend activities. I am working with K to insure that our Saturday night dinner is a cut above the all-too-“heavy” hors d’oeuvres we had in 2010. There will be the traditional faculty meet and greet with retired and current faculty on Saturday morning. Do you have suggestions for afternoon events (beside the football and soccer games at the new Athletic Fields Complex) such as workshops about world or campus issues, a poetry reading or foreign study center gathering? Just let me know and I’ll pass them along. As for our own class events, since it worked so well last time, let’s duplicate our rituals of last year: Friday night get together at Bell’s Brewery, and a farewell brunch Sunday morning at the Stuart Avenue Inn. See you at Bell’s Friday October 23!

- **Join our reunion committee and start spreading the word about our reunion?** Well, I don’t think we don’t really need a formal committee. Anyone who wants to contribute ideas is *ipso facto* on our “reunion committee.” I have already gotten help from Pat Huston (*merci!* in Kalamazoo, and others, notably Steve Landstreet, have pitched in with suggestions. *You can help most* by letting your friends know you are coming and suggesting to them that their presence is *required*. I recently sent a message sharing all the current email addresses I have, making it easier to reconnect. Please feel free to email me at kesdavid@gmail.com with ideas or questions (or if you are not getting messages from me and want to get on board).
• **Share your reunion biography.** What’s been going on with you? You are invited to write a message to our class and including information and news you would like to share, be it about your family, work, retirement, vacations, hobbies, or something unimaginable to the rest of us. The Office of Alumni Relations staff will compile our messages into a reunion book for our class. **Even if you can’t join us on campus, we’d love to hear from you.** You will find the reunion biography form online at [www.kzoo.edu/reunion](http://www.kzoo.edu/reunion) or you can contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 269-337-7300 for a paper form. **Please submit your reunion biography and photo by Friday, June 26 to be included in the book. Especially if you really can’t be there in person, please give us some tidbits to assuage the curiosity of classmates!**

• **Join our Facebook group.** Sign up at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). Once you’re a member of Facebook, search for our “Kalamazoo College Class of 1970” group. Our class Facebook group is a great way to connect with each other by posting ancient or current photos, discussing reunion plans, or calling our collective attention to some event or cause that strikes you as important or fun.

• **Take the Reunion Giving Challenge.** As we celebrate our reunion, please consider a new or increased gift in honor of this special year. Your generosity today honors our past and supports K’s future. Alumni gifts continue to foster the new experiences that shape the lives of today’s students. The challenge runs from July 1, 2015—June 30, 2016. For more information, visit [www.kzoo.edu/giving/reunion](http://www.kzoo.edu/giving/reunion).

• **Arrive early on Friday and connect with students.** Share your career path and expertise with current students at the Fall Professional Development Institute (PDI), October 23-24. Contact the Center for Career and Professional Development at career@kzoo.edu or 269-337-7183 to get involved, or go to the website for more information at [www.kzoo.edu/pdi](http://www.kzoo.edu/pdi).

Please check your email and the homecoming website for reunion updates in the months to come. Online registration opens at the beginning of September. I hope you will join us for what promises to be a fun and exciting weekend for our class!

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