

## ClassACT Bulletin

### Working on ClassACT has been keeping some of us out of trouble: we've been busy!

*Oct. 2, the ClassACT Board concluded a weekend retreat in Cambridge to assess progress to date and plan our direction ahead. We will fill you in on more of that in future bulletins, but in the meantime...*

**SAVE THE DATE** for an Assembly Monday Dec. 5 in Cambridge, co-sponsored by ClassACT and the Weatherhead Institute for International Affairs at Harvard: experts, classmates and Kennedy School and other Muslim students tackle the topic of ***Leading in the Middle East: What Would Benazir Do Today?*** More details below.

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### News in Brief

*Our May weekend in Washington was great fun, with a panel, a picnic, a museum tour, a cocktail party, a Justice AID concert and multiple meals together with some 30 classmates; look for our ClassACT Chronicles coming soon for details.*

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### → Classmates connect for Bridge and other nonprofit projects

- During his most recent trip to Kenya **David Weeks** helped broker the staffing of the Maasai Health Clinic with a local health agency of the Kenyan government. The Osiligi Hope Foundation's new goal is to establish a lab where researchers can study traditional herbal remedies for ailments in a new facility; staffed by medical personnel knowledgeable in traditional and western medicine. According to David, medicinal plants in the forested region next to the clinic represent a great opportunity for a researcher. **Examination beds, tables and benches have already been made and installed**, but more equipment is needed. ClassACT connected David with classmates **Linda Sowell** and **Jono Quick** to help with grant writing and equipment supply.
- David has been checking on the Salih vocational sewing program in Ghana to make sure that the facility there is well equipped. Through ClassACT and Lasell College (**Michael Alexander**, president) he collected two pallets of sewing machines for shipment to Ghana once funding and duty free status for the machines are secured. Lasell instructors and their students will be developing clothing designs for the Salih sewing students to turn into garments.

- In response to our May Bulletin with requests for help from classmates with their nonprofits, **Andrea Kirsh** has stepped in to help **Yeou-cheng Ma** with administrative ideas for the Children's Orchestra Society NYC.
- This summer classmate **Emily Fields Karakashian** contacted **Rick Weil** to see if he could help White Pony Express develop metrics that measure the impact they make on their recipients, to use in grant funding proposals. Rick not only shared the benefit of his personal experience, but also materials used in a course he taught, and a recommendation of a colleague who might be available to help White Pony directly. **Rob Lawrence** was able to give White Pony some guidance on Board development. Nice work, y'all!

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## → Class Acts

### **SAVE THE DATE: Leading in the Middle East: What Would Benazir Do Today?**

December 5 at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs on campus in Cambridge. Convened by Jacqueline Bhabha-Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights at the Chan School of Public Health, Smith Lecturer at the Law School, and Director of Research at the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard-**Kimball Chen, Peter Galbraith, Leigh Hafrey, Roger Meyerson, Bahman Mossavar-Rahmani, Therese Steiner, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Holly Weeks**, and a group of thoughtful panelists and current Kennedy School students from Pakistan and elsewhere will explore what it means to lead in the Muslim world now, and what we can do to help.

We'll have a working lunch and a fun dinner for ALL CLASSMATES AND PARTICIPANTS!

YOUR PAPERLESS POST INVITATION WILL BE IN YOUR MAILBOX SOON!

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We will be back in touch with the ClassACT Chronicles, including a report on our Board retreat and further details about our December 5 event.

#### **Join the Dialogue:**

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