



HBA 2008 WOTY Comments

The HBA: A Year in Review

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Inspiring words indeed from last year's award winners. It's because of people like those winners, and those that sit on the dais today, that I'm confident we'll continue to make a difference in the healthcare industry – and for patients - by helping to develop stronger women leaders!

In my most recent article in *The HBA Advantage*, I referenced what I think is a great quote from Isaac Newton: *"If I have seen farther than others, it is because I was standing on the shoulders of giants."*

I think today's video clearly demonstrated that we have a membership rich with giants – they're ***certainly*** giants to the people they help. But to support these passionate individual members we need a well-oiled machine in the background. Thankfully we have one: our Corporate Partners! Our Corporate Partners truly are the HBA's giants. They're the ones that have helped crystallize our vision - the compelling vision that the HBA could be the premier catalyst for the professional development and leadership of women in healthcare globally.

The list of successes we've had this year is long, so I'll focus on some key highlights.

The HBA launched two new products this year: the ACE Award and the HBA E.D.G.E. in Leadership Study. Both are targeted to the corporate needs and have a direct support to the individual.

SHOW SLIDE #1 – ACE AWARD

The HBA has a long tradition of honoring individual contributions. With the ACE Award, we have taken the next step and we now formally recognize corporate initiatives that advance the careers of

women in healthcare. The first ACE Award was bestowed this past December to Johnson & Johnson, at the annual Leadership Conference.

Along with the ACE Award, the HBA identified a pressing need for an industry-specific study of the life sciences. While other industries have statistical information, no robust benchmarks existed for the pharmaceutical or biotechnology sectors. The HBA responded by launching the E.D.G.E. in Leadership Study last year in partnership with Booz Allen Hamilton.

SHOW SLIDE #2 - EDGE

We now have data for the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors in both the US and Europe and, more importantly, best practice recommendations to help companies attract and retain more women in senior roles.

Along with new product development, we also see our chapter expansion continuing. We now have 14 chapters, affiliates and pre-affiliates and interest from many locations around the world. One impact of chapter growth is the ability to increase the value to our members at the local level and with this we have seen an increase in membership.

SHOW SLIDE #3 - MEMBERSHIP

Between January of last year through March of this year, we achieved a net growth of an amazing 35%!

Along with the healthy growth in membership, we have also seen similar growth with our Corporate Partners.

SHOW SLIDE #4 – CP GROWTH

With this expanding network of Corporate Partners, the HBA is expanding its presence in the arena of women's leadership and with this comes increased visibility and greater impact. We are now in a position to partner with influential academic organizations, such as INSEAD and the Wharton Business School as well as other associations, such as the Drug Information Association and The Women Business Leaders.

We don't rest on our laurels and, although we were recognized as one of the top 100 Leadership Development Programs in North America, we continue to be dedicated to continually improving the depth and breadth of our services, programs and events.

The Leadership Conference held this past year in Washington DC drew record attendance. And, at the chapter level, an extended program offering is being developed to meet local needs with affinity groups. Networking and mentoring, however, continue to be the most requested programs by our members.

SHOW SLIDE #5 – WEBSITE

All of this information is now easily accessible with the introduction of our newly designed website and new additions such as a state of the art job board and much anticipated social networking are underway.

The importance of our corporate relationships cannot be stated strongly enough. And it's not "just about the money." Our Corporate Partners provide significant advice and guidance through our Advisory Board, chaired this year by Alex Gorsky from Ethicon.

SHOW SLIDE #6 – ADVISORY BOARD

My thanks to all our Corporate Partners as we celebrate the best and the brightest, our role models to lead us into what will be another year of great successes. And I encourage those of you who are not part of the HBA today, to sign up to become part of the solution and another giant for the HBA.

Now, please join me in welcoming Dr. Elizabeth Mutisya, the current President of the HBA.

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