



REQUIRED EXPERIENCE FOR HEALTHY CAREERS

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Each of us, at various points in our careers, has had one or more mentors who have provided valuable advice, perceptive counsel and candid, constructive feedback.

Mentors –who often work behind the scenes – are indispensable in helping us not only succeed in our careers, but also avoid common pitfalls and mistakes as we strive to reach our full potential.

In 2001, the HBA – in line with its mission – established an annual Honorable Mentor Award to recognize a man in industry who is personally dedicated to developing, mentoring and promoting women in our industry.

This individual consistently demonstrates support and advocacy for women's professional advancement in the healthcare industry. And this person is also supportive of the HBA's mission to advance women's careers in healthcare worldwide.

Today's honoree easily exemplifies all these qualities.

The HBA is privileged to recognize Alex Gorsky, Worldwide Chairman for the Surgical Care Group and a member of the Executive Committee at Johnson & Johnson, as our 2009 Honorable Mentor.

By any measure, Alex has enjoyed great success. A West Point grad, he joined Johnson & Johnson after leaving the army and rose rapidly through the sales, marketing and management ranks to become Company Group Chairman for J&J's pharma business in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Along the way, he earned a well deserved reputation as a leader who cared for and coached his people and as an advocate for J&J's diversity programs.

Alex joined Novartis Corporation where, in addition to his corporate successes, he started their CEO Diversity and Inclusion Award. He returned to J&J last year where he continues to be a multi-faceted corporate leader, a mentor for many and a valued contributor within his local community. And he does all this while, somehow, finding time to compete competitively in triathlons with his younger brother.

Alex's numerous nominators, many of whom are his mentees, refer to his "exemplary ... inspirational leadership," his example of "doing good (for others) while doing well," his genuine commitment to women and diversity and the many benefits they have derived from being personally coached by him.

A past chair of the HBA Advisory Board, Alex Gorsky is a leader and mentor many aspire to follow. He helps those who work with him become stronger contributors and better leaders.

Alex, congratulations on being named the HBA's 2009 Honorable Mentor!

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