



HBA 2008 WOTY Comments

Elizabeth Mutisya
President, Healthcare Businesswomen's Association

Laurie, thank you for the introduction.

And thanks to Ceci Zak, Cathy Kerzner, and all the volunteers on the Woman of the Year Committee who made today's events possible.

Thank you to the HBA Board, our chapter and affiliate leadership, our committee chairs and members, and the many volunteers who contribute tirelessly to our success, year in and year out. And of course thanks to the companies who sponsored today's event as well as our corporate partners who support us throughout the year.

Welcome everyone, and congratulations to each of our honorees: Charlotte Sibley; Len Kanavy; Anne Camille Talley and the 94 Rising Stars nominated by their companies as accomplished leaders to watch.

They truly exemplify the spirit of leadership, and I hope their stories will inspire you to pursue your own leadership agenda.

Laurie highlighted a few of the HBA's recent accomplishments.

I am going to focus **briefly** on where we are going, specifically four strategic imperatives and four challenges we expect to face over the next 5 to 10 years as we move beyond our 30th year anniversary.

We are proud to be the largest organization dedicated to the advancement of women's careers in healthcare worldwide and, through our research efforts, to be an agent of change. This **is** indeed a very exciting time to be part of the HBA.

The Roman statesman and philosopher, Seneca, said: "If one does not know to which port one is sailing, no wind is favorable."

Our goals will enable us to realize our vision as the premier catalyst for the professional development and leadership of women in healthcare around the world.

These goals fall into four broad categories, as I mentioned.

First, to provide value that allows us to meet our growth and financial targets. This includes a mix of new offerings; enhanced programs and, strategic alliance collaborations, all of which will allow us to meet our members' needs more effectively, enrich the broad range of HBA's award-winning offerings,

and enhance our impact on women's leadership development in the healthcare industry .

Second, we are establishing a global infrastructure and strengthen corporate governance. These are critical to any organization's sustained success, particularly in today's environment.

Third, we are developing tools and programs that strengthen our chapters and affiliates. Our chapters are the cornerstones of our structure and key to our successfully meeting challenges specific to each region where our members work.

And, fourth, we are elevating the HBA brand to establish a global position and reputation. Ensuring that we widely share the value of our programs as well as the insights derived from our ground-breaking research initiatives.

Over the next decade, the HBA will tackle a number of challenges—challenges we also view as tremendous opportunities in our organization's quest to achieve its full potential.

Four challenges – and, as an optimist -- four opportunities for us are:

- First, to manage our growth effectively, particularly as we expand geographically and across healthcare sectors.
- Second, to ensure that HBA members remain engaged and our programs deliver ever greater value.
- Third, to remain on the cutting-edge of trends and emerging technologies so that we continue to equip our members and corporate partners with relevant skills, knowledge and data needed to address the evolving healthcare environment;
- And fourth, to focus on raising HBA's profile and sphere of influence so that we are even more effective in addressing our members' professional and leadership development needs

In Laurie and her staff and in The Charles Group, we have worked to identify and attract great staff and volunteers -- individuals who are committed, passionate and tireless in their efforts to achieve the HBA's goals.

Nonetheless, a significant part of the work to be done, including for example this luncheon celebration and, ultimately the HBA's success in meeting its vision, continues to depend on our membership's own dedicated volunteer efforts.

And the percentage of our membership who volunteer – over 40 percent! – is profoundly impressive.

For those of you in the room today who aren't yet among that group, stand up, volunteer, and be counted. You won't be sorry!

In return for their efforts—creating programs, leading committees, and contributing to the HBA's long-term success—our member volunteers broaden their experience, gain new insights that can enrich their contributions at work, enhance their leadership skills, and expand their support network.

Anne Camille Talley, our 2008 Star Volunteer, exemplifies this spirit of volunteerism and leadership. I first met Anne Camille eight years ago, when I joined the HBA. At that time she served on the HBA board and drove our market research efforts.

Anne Camille, who has been active with the HBA for 16 years, including 9 years on the board, has also overseen our career development efforts and Association Relations. Since rotating off the board, Anne Camille has remained as passionate about the HBA as ever, serving as a highly effective mentor to the HBA Boston chapter leadership team and spearheading our EDGE in Leadership Study.

This critical study allows the HBA to work with its corporate partners and other companies to identify barriers to women's progression and management as well as tangible solutions to these barriers.

Anne Camille's enthusiasm, dedication, and tireless commitment to the HBA's mission have been both impressive and inspirational.

It is my great pleasure to present the 2008 Star Volunteer award to Anne Camille Talley.

Please join me in welcoming her to the podium.

Anne Camille...

#