

Harvard Business School Alumni Association Board of Directors

This overview shall provide HBS alumni with some basic information about the Harvard Business School Alumni Association (HBSAA) and its Board of Directors.

The HBSAA exists since 1916 and is a non-profit organization which represents the entire worldwide body of HBS alumni which consists of well over 70,000 alumni.

The HBS Alumni Network is the world's most powerful. Alumni hold positions of leadership in virtually every industry and in a wide range of organizations around the world, including companies of all sizes, governments, and nonprofits. For instance, about 20% of the top three executive positions of Fortune 500 companies are held by HBS alumni, 46% have founded or co-founded at least one company, 34% serve on the boards of non-profit organizations. They are also a very diverse group; many are self-employed or active in entrepreneurial ventures, while a significant number are involved in non-traditional business activities. The HBS Alumni Network circles the globe. HBS alumni represent more than 150 countries, over 40,000 serve as alumni advisors, more than 75 alumni clubs and associations in 27 countries exist.

Every graduate of HBS becomes automatically an ordinary member of HBSAA. The HBS faculty and its external relations administration are ex officio members, and there are also honorary alumni who are as such honorary members of the organization. HBSAA is represented by its Board of Directors comprising 36 members who were proposed, nominated and elected in a sophisticated selection process. Every year 12 new Board members are elected for a term period of 3 years who replace 12 of the existing members whose term expires. The Board has full authority on all matters of HBSAA. The Board convenes in an Annual Meeting and in Board meetings three times a year in Boston and other locations around the globe for about three days to conduct its affairs as Board and in its Committees, and works on various issues in between in order to come up with sophisticated recommendations for improvements to the benefit of HBS and its alumni. The Board of Directors has several Committees: Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, Marketing Committee, Clubs and Associations Committee, and a Volunteers Committee.

The following are a few samples of the accomplishments of the Board of Directors since its inception:

- 1916 Produced the first HBS Alumni Directory
- 1916 Formed first HBS Club in New York City
- 1921 Introduced the first HBS Bulletin
- 1949 Inaugurated the HBS Fund
- 1959 Introduced the HBS Reunion program
- 1982 Developed the Career Advisory Service
- 1990 Recommended the Office of Alumni Career Services
- 1990 Institution of an annual Global Alumni Conference
- 1998 Developed universal standards for HBS Clubs worldwide
- 2000 Global Alumni Conference in Berlin
- 2005 Created outreach and communications strategy for the Alumni Job Bank

The Board is currently working in close cooperation with the HBS administration on the further optimization of marketing, clubs and volunteers issues, but also on further improvements to the Alumni Website, the Alumni Career Services, and the Centennial activities in 2008. The Centennial in particular will serve as a vehicle for further information and communication regarding the many activities of the HBSAA and its Board of Directors to the benefit of HBS and its alumni worldwide. Some of the highlights of the centennial events are the Global Outreach Program throughout 2008 and the Global Summit on Leading in Business and Beyond in October 2008 to which more than 2,000 conference participants are expected on campus in Boston.

If anyone is interested in further information on HBSAA or would like to make specific recommendations please do not hesitate to contact:

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