

The view at the Summit

The year 2008 marked the 100th anniversary of the founding of Harvard Business School. To commemorate the milestone, the School convened more than a dozen academic and industry colloquia on topics ranging from entrepreneurship and creativity to healthcare to the future of market capitalism. For alumni, in addition to more than 50 regional celebrations around the world, the culminating event was the Centennial Global Business Summit in October. The summit brought together nearly 2,000 graduates to engage in a dialogue with leading figures in business and society on the issues that will shape global management for decades to come.

2008 Alumni Achievement Awards

For four decades, HBS has honored outstanding graduates with the Alumni Achievement Awards. Like their predecessors, the 2008 honorees are exemplary role models who have contributed significantly to their companies and communities while upholding the highest standards and values in everything they do.

JOHN DOERR, MBA '76

JEFFREY R. IMMELT, MBA '82

ANAND G. MAHINDRA, MBA '81

MEG WHITMAN, MBA '79

JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN, MBA '59

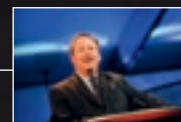


“You need an open environment. I was at a meeting one time and someone said when you’re a CEO you need around you one truth teller, someone who will always tell you the truth no matter what. To which I said, ‘If you’re a CEO and you have ten people around you and only one is a truth teller, you should fire the other nine.’”

JAMES DIMON, MBA '82
CHAIRMAN/CEO, JPMORGAN CHASE

“I believe that the choices that the United States, as a nation, makes going forward in cooperation with other nations will in the broad economic area have profound impact on the lives of literally hundreds of millions of people who will never know what a credit default swap is, who will never know who the financial minister of any country is, but whose lives will be affected in hugely consequential ways by the choices that our society makes.”

LAWRENCE SUMMERS
CHARLES W. ELIOT UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR



“You have areas where people can’t afford to buy drugs, and therefore the incentive to invent those drugs is very small. That’s a certain type of market failure. A dramatic example is that if you look at the amount of money that’s been spent on male baldness, it’s ten times the amount that’s been spent on malaria.... That’s clearly the kind of thing a foundation should come and do.”

BILL GATES
CHAIRMAN, MICROSOFT CORPORATION

“Although we have a large and highly talented applicant pool, we also see people who are not applying and whose voices would enrich our classrooms and alumni network. That’s the catalyst behind admissions initiatives ranging from increased financial aid to targeted merit aid to the 2+2 Program.”

DEIRDRE LEOPOLD, MBA ’80
Managing Director
MBA Admissions & Financial Aid

Leaders for a changing world

The leaders of tomorrow must understand and represent the world. HBS has delivered on its commitment to bring diverse perspectives to its classrooms: The MBA Class of 2010 is 33 percent international, from 71 countries; 27 percent U.S. ethnic minorities; and 38 percent female. Fully half of all students qualify for fellowships from the School. In order to broaden the applicant pool still more, in recent years HBS has substantially decreased the cost of attendance for students with demonstrated need by raising the amount of tuition covered by the average fellowship from 30 percent for the Class of 2000 to 59 percent for the Class of 2009. As well, in 2008 the School began a merit-based fellowship program to recruit students from the life sciences.

2 + 2 = More

Many talented undergraduates do not even consider pursuing an MBA. Yet their aspirations to drive change through leadership could make them ideal candidates for HBS. To reach these high-potential students, in 2008 HBS inaugurated the 2+2 Program and admitted the first cohort of approximately 100 college seniors. The students will join the 2+2 online community as they finish their undergraduate degrees and then work for two years, spending part of each summer on campus for career coaching, skill building, and leadership development before entering the MBA Program.

Leaders for emerging sectors

Scientific discovery is driving business as never before, and the pace of innovation continues to accelerate. The fledgling HBS Science-Based Business Initiative prepares students to lead scientific enterprises, which are characterized by novel finance needs, broad external collaborations, and complex ethical issues. Drawing on scientific strengths across Harvard and throughout the Boston area, the initiative gives students unique opportunities for experiential learning, including the elective course *Inventing Breakthroughs and Commercializing Science*. This course brings together MBA students with those from other fields within and beyond Harvard to create business plans for advancing new science to the marketplace.



A Lab at Your Fingertip

Diagnostics-For-All is a small start-up with a big mission—to improve global health through a simple, low-cost, accessible diagnostic technology. The not-for-profit company, which grew out of the Inventing Breakthroughs and Commercializing Science course, won top honors in the 2008 business plan competitions at both HBS and MIT. Based on technology from the laboratory of Harvard Professor George M. Whitesides, DFA is advancing the development of an innovative paper-based chip that reacts to bodily fluids to indicate health or disease. This breakthrough technology has the potential to save countless lives in the developing world.

“Here, at a world academic center that gives birth to innovation, we are building a synergistic research and teaching initiative that crosses disciplines. The goal is to capture the value of that innovation by advancing Harvard research for the benefit of society and developing leaders for new kinds of enterprises.”

VICKI SATO

Professor of Management Practice
Harvard Business School

Professor of the Practice
Department of Molecular
and Cellular Biology,
Harvard University

Leaders for a global economy

For more than a decade, HBS has pursued a strategy of global engagement through the creation of regional research centers—six in total—that facilitate faculty research and course development and build ties with local alumni and business. In 2008, HBS began expanding the footprint of these centers to support a wider range of educational programs, from MBA Immersion experiences to Executive Education offerings.

Open for Business in Shanghai

In a unique collaboration, in 2008 HBS and the Harvard China Fund opened an office on the Bund in Shanghai. For HBS, the office will extend the reach of the Hong Kong-based Asia-Pacific Research Center to support the School's research, educational programs, and publishing efforts. For the Harvard China Fund, it will provide Harvard students and faculty with on-the-ground services for regional study, internships, scholarly research, and teaching. Within a year, HBS and the HCF hope to open a larger facility in the Pudong district, including a classroom for executive programs and research colloquia, as well as meeting and office space.

"You can't pretend to know more than you do about the Japanese economy or use only U.S.-based cases when you're teaching a roomful of Asian executives. Teaching our programs around the world demands that we develop an in-depth understanding of global business issues and enables us to test our ideas in real time."

KRISHNA PALEPU

Ross Graham Walker
Professor of Business Administration

Senior Associate Dean for
International Development