The University at Buffalo announced a $10 million gift from Jeremy Jacobs, a global leader in hospitality and one of the largest privately held companies in North America. Jacobs is chairman and CEO of Delaware North Companies, a worldwide hospitality company, and the late brother of Jeremy Jacobs.

The gift was made in honor of Lawrence D. Jacobs, MD, a world-renowned cardiologist and the late brother of Jeremy Jacobs. Lawrence Jacobs was chair of the Department of Medicine in the School of Medicine at the University at Buffalo (UB) and chief of Cardiology at the University at Buffalo Medical Center at the time of his death. He was known for his research on vascular diseases and his commitment to improving heart disease care in Western New York.

The gift will fund the retention and recruitment of world-class research and clinical leaders, as well as the establishment of new centers and programs focused on vascular health. The gift is dependent upon the building of a new facility, which will be a facility for world-class research and teaching, and will be the first of its kind in the world.

The Jacobs Institute, located on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, will bring together physicians, researchers and educators to address heart and vascular diseases. The Jacobs Institute will focus on bringing the most promising research and clinical care to Western New York, and will be a vehicle for the Jacobs family’s confidence in UB’s ability to dramatically change health care in the region.

With the collaboration of the Jacobs Institute, UB and Kaleida Health, we have the opportunity to dramatically change health care in Western New York for the better. “I support the vision of bringing the brightest minds together in one place to solve challenging problems. It is my hope that this gift will help provide an avenue for the collaboration of Buffalo as a world-class center for state-of-the-art research, treatment and teaching in the areas of vascular and heart diseases.”

From left: UB President John B. Simpson, Jeremy Jacobs and James R. Kaskie, president and CEO of Kaleida Health.