



PRESS RELEASE

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**Christopher L. Jacobs Joins the Hauptman-Woodward Medical
Research Institute Board of Directors**

Christopher L. Jacobs, Esq., has been elected to the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute's Board of Directors. Jacobs is the owner of Avalon Development, LLC, a real estate development firm which focuses on adaptive reuse and redevelopment activities within the city of Buffalo.

Jacobs also has been active in federal and local government. He served as Secretary of the State of New York under George Pataki from 2006 to 2007 and was elected for a five-year term as a member of the Buffalo Board of Education in 2004. Jacobs also served as the Erie County Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Planning and Economic Development from January 2000 to May 2002. In addition, from 1989 to 1991, Jacobs worked in Washington, D.C. for several years for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Throughout his career, Jacobs has been active in various philanthropic programs on a local and national level. In 1992, Jacobs co-founded The Empowerment Network Foundation (TEN) in Washington, D.C. where he then served as vice president. Jacobs also co-founded the Buffalo Inner City Scholarship Opportunity Network (BISON), a private scholarship program for low-income children in the city of Buffalo and the Greater Buffalo area. BISON was founded in 1995 and Jacobs has served as a board member since its inception.

Jacobs has been an active board member and volunteer to several schools and not-for-profit organizations since 1999. From 1999 to 2004, Jacobs served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the South Buffalo Charter School and sat on the Board of Directors for the Catholic Academy of West Buffalo. Jacobs was also a board member to the Olmstead Parks Conservancy from 2001 to 2002 as well as the KIPP Sankofa Charter School from 2002 to 2004. In addition, Jacobs also has been active in Leadership Buffalo since 2006.

Jacobs has received a great deal of recognition for his work within the community. Jacobs was awarded the Pathfinder Award in 1998. Jacobs also received the Rising Star Award from Grassroots Incorporated as well as the 40-Under-40 Award in 2000. In addition, Jacobs was awarded the Leadership Award from the Buffalo Urban League in 2002.

Jacobs received his bachelor's degree from Boston College in 1989. He received his master's in business administration from The American University in 1993 and went on to attend the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law until 1999.

Jacobs resides in Buffalo, New York with his family.

About HWI

With more than 50 years of exceptional scientific research, HWI is an independent, non-profit facility specializing in the area of fundamental biomedical research known as structural biology. Hauptman-Woodward's team of more than 70 staff members is committed to improving human health by studying the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their basic molecular level. HWI is located in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in downtown Buffalo, New York, in a new state-of-the-art structural biology research center at 700 Ellicott Street. For more information, visit HWI's website at www.hwi.buffalo.edu or call 716-898-8600.