Gary Jacobs has been comfortable on the UC San Diego campus since he was a youngster, when his then-faculty father would bring Gary and his brothers to campus. The four boys became so comfortable, in fact, that two later enrolled in and graduated from the university. Gary chose a Management Sciences major in the Division of Social Sciences, and applied his degree by founding Jacobs Investment Company. He also serves as chairman of DermTech International, Nutrinia Ltd., and Next Generation Technologies, and is a director of GEO2 Technologies, Bio2 Technologies, Motus GI Technologies, M.S.T - Medical Surgical Technologies, and Fallbrook Technologies.

Gary stays connected to his university by being active on the Social Sciences Dean's Advisory Council. “I especially enjoy interacting with the professors,” he says. “I like to hear their passion, and learn how they’re using their expertise to make the world a better place.” He and his wife Jerri-Ann are helping that expertise along; they created the Gary and Jerri-Ann Graduate Fellowship in Social Sciences Endowment and the Jerri-Ann and Gary Jacobs Chair in Social Sciences. Gary also champions UC San Diego student-athletes, and serves on the Triton Athletics Board as a voice for alumni and for the sports industry.

Gary is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of High Tech High charter high school. He serves on the boards of the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, the Jewish Community Centers Association, and on The Gary and Jerri-Ann Jacobs International Teen Leadership Institute (JITLI), which brings together Jewish teens from San Diego and Israel and Arab teens from Israel and Gaza for a year-long program studying historical and current Muslim/Jewish relations.

As a UC San Diego Foundation Trustee, Gary says, “I’m interested in learning more about the breadth of what’s going on at UCSD. Our family is passionate about specific areas on campus; now I’d like to learn more about what else is going on and find ways to support it.”