

Power Up Gambia to help provide reliable electricity and water in Gambia through solar energy. She is now working on a second project – to provide solar panels to the hospital's sister clinic. A clinical research assistant at HUP, Hall has pursued a project to confirm the accuracy of a new serum creatinine protocol to aid in kidney flushing.

Jason H. Karlawish, M.D., an associate professor of medicine in the division of geriatric medicine and of medical ethics, is one of 16 scholars across the coun-

try to receive an Investigator Award in Health Policy Research for 2008. Presented by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the awards support research projects that tackle major policy issues, as well as wide-ranging concerns about the nation's health. Investigators receive up to \$335,000. Karlawish serves as associate director of the Penn Memory Center. In his project, "The Making and Unmaking of Alzheimer's Disease," he is exploring how our understanding of the aging brain is changing and raising contentious issues. These include how to define and

treat dementia, the use of neuroimaging, Medicare reimbursement for PET scans, genetic testing, and related matters.

Michael L. Kochman, M.D., the Wilmott Family Professor of Medicine and Professor of Medicine in Surgery in the gastroenterology division, was appointed to the governing board of The American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE). Co-director of Penn Medicine's gastrointestinal oncology program, Kochman is a former president of the Delaware Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

AAMC Honors Two from Penn Medicine

At the annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges in November, two prominent Penn Medicine figures were among the nine individuals and one medical school honored for outstanding contributions to academic medicine.

Arthur H. Rubenstein, M.B.,B.Ch., executive vice president of the University of Pennsylvania for the Health System



Rubenstein

and dean of the School of Medicine, received the Abraham Flexner Award for Distinguished Service to Medical Education. According to the AAMC, Dean

Rubenstein's career epitomizes what was envisioned by Flexner, author of the seminal *Flexner Report* (1910) that led to widespread reforms in medical education in the United States: "a greater emphasis on research as part of the medical education experience; an integrated, institutional focus on learning; and, above all, a joy for the university environment and academic medicine as a profession."

At Penn, Rubenstein has overseen the creation of several interdisciplinary research institutes, including the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics. Working closely with Ralph Muller, CEO of Penn's Health System, he transformed the flow of funds into a process that is now well-defined, transparent, and equitable for each of the clinical departments.

David A. Asch, M.D., M.B.A., G.M.E. '87 received the Alpha Omega Alpha Robert J. Glaser Distinguished Teacher Award. Asch is the Robert D. Eilers Professor of Medicine and Health Care Management and Economics at the School of Medicine and the Wharton School. According to his students, his focus on inter-professional and inter-school education and collaboration has helped



Asch

them understand the "intricacies of the enigmatic health-care system."

Asch helped establish the joint M.D.-Masters of Science in Health Policy Research program that trains students in health policy research for work in academe, government, industry, and community settings. As executive director of Penn's Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, Asch helped develop a summer undergraduate minority research program that pairs students from underrepresented minority groups with Penn faculty to complete research projects.