Announcing the 2013 SYNERGY Scholars Awards

Two outstanding young research scientists have been selected as recipients of the 2013 SYNERGY Scholars Mentored Career Development Award, funded through Dartmouth SYNERGY: The Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

The Dartmouth SYNERGY Scholars Program aims to develop future researchers and facilitate collaborative translational research studies across all our institutions and affiliated health centers. The Program Committee anticipates that providing funding for such studies will accelerate the process of translational and clinical research, and thereby have a positive impact upon our overall clinical and translational research enterprise.

The selected scholars were chosen by a panel of senior scientists through a rigorous peer-review process. Each award involves two or more Mentors who will collaborate with the scholar and oversee her/his progress in patient-oriented research; the Mentors chosen reflect the disciplines needed to gain independence in the proposed area of research. These two-year awards begin on September 1, 2013; they are awarded for one year and are renewable based on performance.

The 2013 SYNERGY Scholars are:

**Scholar:** Nicole C. Smits, PhD, Instructor in Medicine  
**Project Title:** Novel Biologics - Implications in Sepsis and Cancer  
**Mentors:** Nicholas W. Shworak, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology & Toxicology; William B. Kinlaw, MD, Professor of Medicine; and Paul M. Guyre, Professor of Physiology & Neurobiology and of Microbiology & Immunology.

**Scholar:** Samir S. Soneji, PhD, Assistant Professor  
**Project Title:** Assessing the Translation of CT Screening from Clinical Trial to Everyday Practice  
**Mentors:** Jonathan Skinner, PhD, James O. Freedman Presidential Professor of Economics, Professor of Community & Family Medicine and of The Dartmouth Institute (TDI); William C. Black, MD, Professor of Radiology, of Community & Family Medicine, and of TDI; Harold C. Sox, MD, Professor of Medicine and of TDI.

The Dartmouth SYNERGY Scholars Program is modeled on the NIH K12 Scholars Program. It combines didactic training, mentoring, exposure to multidisciplinary research, and ongoing evaluation to prepare junior investigators for careers in Clinical Translational Research. The SYNERGY Scholars award provides funds to cover 75% of the scholar's salary (to a maximum of $100,000), plus fringe benefits annually, plus up to $25,000 per year to cover travel, supplies, research assistant salary, and tuition expenses.