



The Mahoney Institute for Neurosciences (MINS) Rising Star Award, this year in the area of Neuroimmunology, has been awarded to Dorothy P. Schafer, PhD, an Associate Professor in the Department of Neurobiology at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. Dr. Schafer studies neuron-glia interactions, focusing particularly on neuro-immune interactions. Her research in the neuroimmunology field has been both rigorous and highly clinically relevant. Among her contributions, Dr. Schafer showed the importance of microglia for synaptic pruning and synapse remodeling in health and disease conditions. She also helped delineate the microglia-based mechanisms that propagate inflammation in neurodegenerative disease. Dr. Schafer will be presented with the award at the **39th Annual MINS Symposium** on April 3, 2024 celebrating the MINS Year of Neuroimmunology on the Penn Campus. Dr. Schafer will receive a \$10,000 personal honorarium and will present her work at the MINS 39th Annual Symposium on April 3, 2024.