Finding a research mentor

For your study, you must have a faculty mentor who will be the Principal Investigator (PI) on the study. The PI is responsible for the conduct of the study, but you as the student will be running many aspects of the study, such as data collection. Here are some tips for finding a mentor for your study:

- Ask your professors in class. Approach your professors after class and ask them if they are currently involved in research. They might have a study that will allow a student's participation. If they are not currently involved in research, ask them what their research interests are. Your interests might overlap.
- Search our mentor database. This database lists researchers either by name, type of research, or by fields of research. This is a great place to start your mentor search if you know what type of research you want to conduct.
- Search the Bates-Andrews Research Abstract Book from the past year. Each year this booklet is made compiling all the student abstracts presented at Bates-Andrews Research Day, as well as faculty abstracts published during that academic year. This booklet has the most up-to-date information on the research activities of our faculty members. It can also give you ideas for your own research project. Search through old abstracts to find a mentor involved in your field of interest – once you have the PDF open, hit "Ctrl" "F" and search by name or keyword.
- Attend the Student Research Mixer. Each year in November, Dental Research Administration (DRA) and the Bates Student Research Group (BSRG) host a Student Research Mixer which aims to match students and faculty research mentors. The information will be emailed out to the first-year class and other interested students as the information becomes available.
- Email Dental Research Administration (katie.dunn@tufts.edu). On occasion, dental manufacturing companies approach DRA to conduct a research study, and there might be an opportunity for a student to conduct the study.