

### Dr. Mary Shimoyama Receives \$8.6M NIH Grant

Dr. Mary Shimoyama, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, has received a 4-year, \$8.6M R01 grant award from the National Institutes of Health for the continued development of the Rat Genome Database ([rgd.mcw.edu](http://rgd.mcw.edu)).

The Rat Genome Database (RGD) is the premier site for genetic, genomic, phenotype, and disease data generated from research using the laboratory rat as a model for human physiology and disease. In addition, it provides easy access to corresponding human and mouse data for cross-species comparisons. RGD's comprehensive data and innovative software tools make it a valuable resource for researchers worldwide.

Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year, the RGD has been continuously funded by the NIH since 1999. The current grant focuses on extending and adding value to primary genetic datasets through additional data types and innovative software, enhancement of functional data through further disease, phenotype and pathway annotations, additions of metabolome and microbiome data, and enrichment analysis of critical gene sets and the creation of a Precision Model Portal to assist researchers in developing preclinical studies by providing quantitative phenotype profiles and expected ranges for disease models, genotype profiles, appropriate data mining and presentation tools and access to protocols and methods information.