



**DR. ROBERTA R.
MARINELLI**
**Director, USC Wrigley Institute for
Environmental Studies**

Dr. Roberta Marinelli is a marine scientist with expertise in the ecology and biogeochemistry of the seafloor. As director of the Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Southern California, Dr. Marinelli plays a leadership role in planning and implementing an expansion of academic and research programs in environmental studies at USC both on its main campus in Los Angeles and its Santa Catalina Island facility, the USC Philip K. Wrigley Marine Science Center.

She also is co-chair of USC Dornsife's Sustainability Task Force (with Drs. Will Berelson and Robert English) and is the president of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Marine Institute. She represents USC on the National Association of Marine Laboratories, the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System, and the Consortium of Ocean Leadership, based in Washington, DC.

Dr. Marinelli is a member of the National Academy of Sciences Decadal Ocean Survey committee, which is tasked with advising the nation on its marine research and infrastructure investments over the next 10 years.

Before coming to USC, Dr. Marinelli held faculty positions at the University of Georgia's Skidaway

Institute of Oceanography, and the University of Maryland's Center for Environmental Science.

During that time, she received numerous research grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Office of Naval Research and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Sea Grant Program, including a prestigious CAREER award from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Marinelli also served as a science administrator in the NSF's Antarctic Science Division, where she led the Antarctic Organisms and Ecosystems Program. As program director, Dr. Marinelli oversaw numerous grant competitions, including several in NSF's International Polar Year portfolio, and the subsequent distribution and management of research awards ranging from the oceanography of the Southern Ocean to the molecular biology of ice fish to the extreme microbes in Antarctica's ice-covered lakes.

She also contributed to the development of NSF's Climate Research Investments, and later the SEES (Science, Engineering, and Education for Sustainability) portfolio, leading the first Ocean Acidification competition and collaborating in the Dimensions of Biodiversity, and Earth System Modeling competitions.

While at NSF, Dr. Marinelli won three awards for collaborative integration related to the management of long-term ecological research projects and the development of cross-directorate Climate Research Investments. As part of the Antarctic Science Division, she also served as the station science representative at Palmer Station, in the Antarctic Peninsula, and McMurdo Station on Ross Island.

Dr. Marinelli received her undergraduate degree from Brown University, and her graduate degrees from the University of South Carolina's Marine Science Program. Her postdoctoral research was conducted in the Oceanography Department at Dalhousie University, in Nova Scotia.