

## **Michael A. Marletta, Ph.D.**

**Aldo DeBenedictis Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, Department of Chemistry**  
**Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Department of Molecular & Cell Biology**  
**University of California, Berkeley**  
**Professor of Cellular & Molecular Pharmacology, University of California, San Francisco**  
**Faculty Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory**

Michael A. Marletta was born in Rochester New York on February 12, 1951. After an A.B. in biology and chemistry (SUNY, College at Fredonia, 1973), PhD (University of California, San Francisco, 1978) with Prof. George L. Kenyon, and postdoctoral fellowship at MIT (1978-80) with Christopher T. Walsh, he joined the faculty at M.I.T. as an Assistant Professor of Toxicology in the Department of Applied Biological Sciences (1980-86). He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1986. In 1987 he moved to the University of Michigan as Associate Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, College of Pharmacy and Associate Professor of Biological Chemistry, Medical School. He was promoted to Professor (1991) and appointed the John G. Searle Professor of Medicinal Chemistry. In 1997 he was named to the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Marletta moved to the University of California, Berkeley in 2001 as Professor of Chemistry, and Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Professor of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, UCSF and Faculty Scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. He was appointed the Aldo DeBenedictis Distinguished Professor of Chemistry in 2002. On 1 July 2005, he became Chair of the Department of Chemistry at Berkeley.

Awards he has received include: Burroughs Wellcome Fund George H. Hitchings Award for Innovative Methods in Drug Discovery and Design (1991), Faculty Recognition Award University of Michigan (1992), Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award SUNY Fredonia (1993), MacArthur Foundation Fellowship (1995). He was elected Senior Fellow in the Michigan Society of Fellows and elected to the SUNY Honor Role (1996), to the Institute of Medicine (1999), American Academy of Arts and Sciences and American Association for the Advancement of Science (2001), and National Academy of Sciences (2006). He was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award in Biomedical Research by the University of Michigan Medical School (2000) and Michigan Scientist of the Year (2000) by the Impression 5 Science Museum. Also in 2000 he was a Lecture Platform Speaker at the Chautauqua Institution and selected for Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award at the University of Michigan. In 2004 he was the recipient the Harrison Howe Award of the American Chemical Society. In 2007 he received the Repligen Award given by the Biological Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society and the Kaiser Award from the Protein Society and the Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest given the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society. In 2008 he will be awarded the Murray Goodman Memorial Prize.

He is a member of the American Chemical Society and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He currently serves on the Board of Editors of *ACS Chemical Biology* and on the editorial board of *PNAS* as well as a number of other journals. He is a consultant for a number of pharmaceutical companies and has served on the scientific advisory boards of NitroMed, Inc. and Oxon Medica, Inc. He is a co-founder of Omnix, Inc. He is a member of the Fredonia College Foundation Board of Directors. In 2008 he was appointed to the HHMI Science Advisory Board.

Marletta's primary research interests lie at the interface of chemistry and biology with emphasis on the study of protein function and enzyme reaction mechanisms. Marletta has made fundamental discoveries concerning the biological action of nitric oxide. His studies have provided the basis for understanding at the molecular level of this unique cell signaling pathway and the function of nitric oxide in the immune system. He has uncovered several novel structure/function relationships in nitric oxide synthase and guanylate cyclase. His continued studies on NO signaling have recent led to a molecular understanding of general gas sensing mechanisms in biology.

Marletta lives with his wife Margaret Gutowski and son Matthew in Berkeley, California.