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Marin's primary research interests include computational mechanics, experimental evaluation of large-scale structural and nonstructural components, and structural health monitoring. The National Science Foundation has sponsored her research projects, funding to support independent, collaborative, and multi-disciplinary research programs, including the prestigious CAREER award. The primary theme of her research is the development of protective systems to improve the performance of bridges, buildings, and their contents under seismic and other extreme loads. She has significant contributions to large-scale experimental testing, field monitoring of built structures, working with a large number of undergraduate researchers, and obtaining industry cooperation.

She is the founder and advisor of the Engineering Ambassador Program at Howard University, which since 2011 serves to engage undergraduate engineering students as ambassadors in K-12 outreach activities and stimulate the ambassadors' interest in STEM, soft skills, self-efficacy, and academic achievement. She is a registered professional engineer in Virginia, Maryland, New York, Arkansas, and the District of Columbia. She had more than seven years as a professional structural engineer before joining Howard University.