

Anna (McInturf) Cherian
George Fox University
1998 Winner



After graduating from George Fox University, Anna attended graduate school at Cornell University. She studied under Prof. Geoffrey Coates, and completed her PhD in Organic and Inorganic Chemistry in 2004. Her PhD research focused on design and synthesis of single-site chiral polymerization catalysts, which were used to control polyolefin polymeric structure, resulting in a number of highly recognized publications and awards, including the Presidential Green Chemistry Award, awarded to Geoffrey Coates and team in 2012.

After graduate school, Anna taught Chemistry at Ithaca College for 1 year. She then accepted a position with what was then Novomer, Inc, a start-up materials company in Ithaca, NY, which is now owned by Aramco Performance Materials. During her 10 years with Novomer, she led a number of strategic projects to develop and market new CO₂-based polyols for the polyurethane industry. She authored more than 10 academic papers and is an inventor on 10 patent applications and issued patents.

In 2016 Anna accepted a position as Sr. R&D Leader with Avery Dennison, Label and Graphics Materials, North America, which is located just outside Cleveland, Ohio. She is responsible for new product development and re-engineering efforts for the hot melt pressure sensitive adhesive platform, which is a \$170M business. She also participates as a manager and mentor in the Technology Leadership Development Program, an early career rotational training program.

Anna married James Cherian in 2001, and they have 2 children and are active foster parents as well. Most of their spare time is spent with their children, but they also enjoy cooking, eating, and traveling.