



Dr. Karen Leonas, Professor of Textile Sciences

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Dr. Karen K. Leonas is a professor in the Textile and Apparel, Technology and Management Department, Wilson College of Textiles, at North Carolina State University. Dr. Leonas earned a B.S. in textile chemistry from North Carolina State, an M.S. in clothing and textiles, and a Ph.D. in textile chemistry/textile physics with an emphasis in polymer engineering from the University of Tennessee. She has over 125 research publications and 93 research presentations and has received about \$6 million in support of her research and teaching programs. Her research focuses on sustainability through the textile and apparel supply chain, including the development and evaluation of products using more environmentally friendly raw materials, circular economy, fiber release, and life cycle assessment analysis. Dr. Leonas has received numerous recognitions for excellence in research, teaching, and student advising. She is currently co-chair of the Clothing, Footwear and Textile Committee of The Sustainability Consortium and is a member of other related committees/organizations, including AATCC R100 Global Sustainability, the Microfibre Consortium, and the Textile Exchange, among others.