Monday, Nov. 5, 2018
Magnolia Ballroom
5-5:30 p.m. | Networking Reception
5:30-6:30 p.m. | Forum

Alex Gregory is Georgia College’s inaugural Leader in Residence and recently retired as chairman and CEO of YKK Corporation of America. He began his career with YKK America Group in 1973 when he joined YKK Industries as one of its first American employees. At the company’s then new Macon manufacturing operation, he held positions of increasing responsibility—first as manager of the weaving department, then as assistant vice president of manufacturing, and later as vice president and senior vice president of manufacturing. In the autumn of 1991, he joined YKK Corporation of America in its Marietta headquarters as senior vice president of corporate planning. In 2000, he was promoted to executive vice president, corporate development, and in 2001 he was named president and CEO. In 2004, he was named the first non-Japanese Group Officer for YKK Corporation in Japan. From 2008 to 2010, he served on YKK Corporation’s Board of Directors in Japan as YKK’s first non-Japanese Director. In 2011, he was elected Chairman of YCA’s Board of Directors.

Gregory is a graduate of Georgia Tech with a degree in textile engineering. He holds graduate degrees from Georgia College. He has mentored students at both universities for nearly two decades. He has testified in Washington before the International Trade Commission on two occasions, and in 2005, he addressed the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee in support of the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). In 2010, Gregory was one of five CEOs featured in a book by Mervyn A. Hayes and Michael D. Comer entitled “Start with Humility: Lessons from America’s Quiet CEOs on How to Build Trust and Inspire Followers.”

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