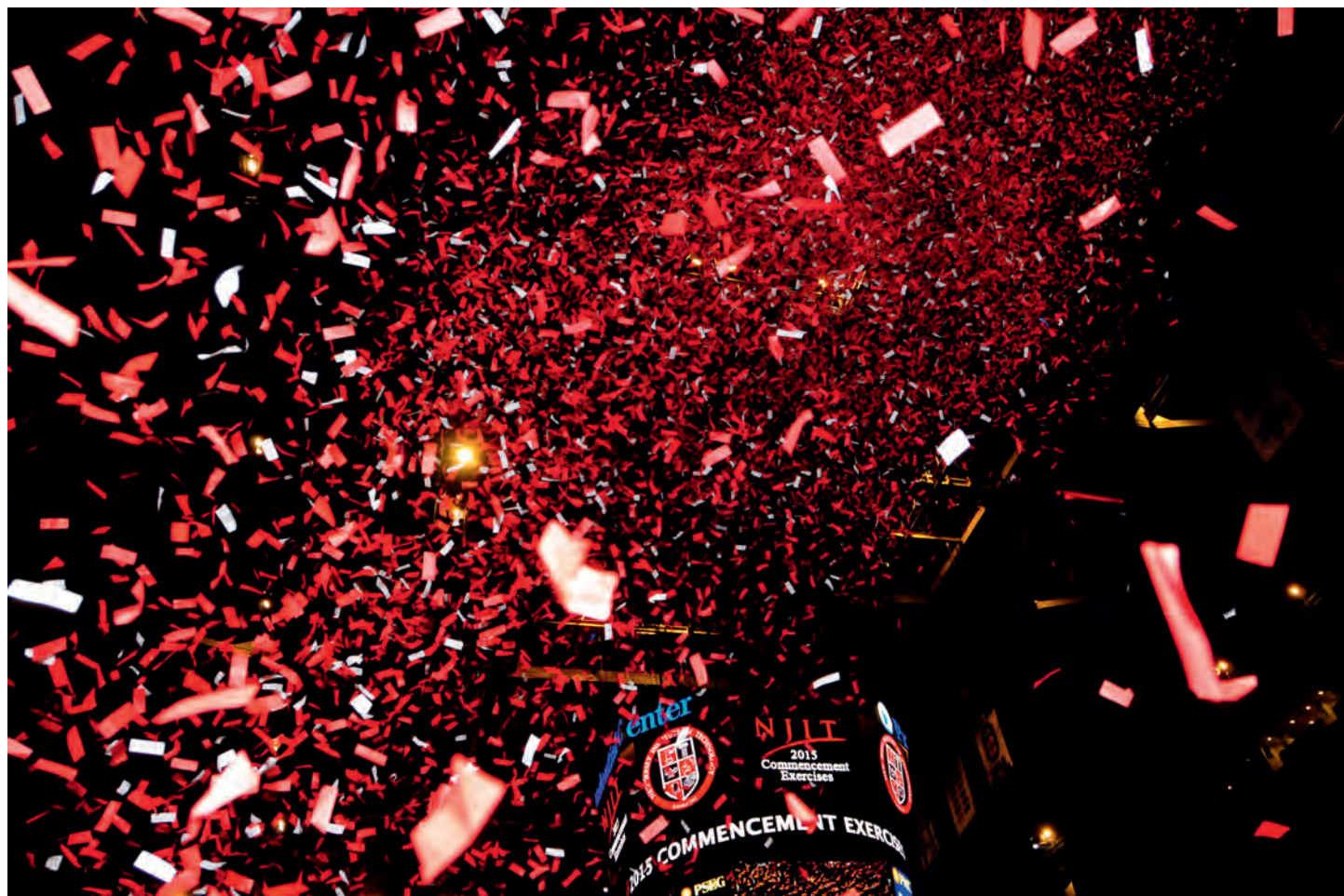


CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE CLASS OF 2015!



PHOTOS: GRADIMAGES

More than 2,700 Highlanders joined the ranks of NJIT alumni at the 99th Commencement ceremonies on May 19, 2015 at the Prudential Center in Newark. Honorary degrees were awarded to Charles Elachi, director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and a vice president at California Institute of Technology and Irving Pressley McPhail, chairman and chief executive officer of the National Association for Minority Engineering, Inc. (NACME). McPhail, who also was the commencement speaker, underscored the crucial need for diversity in the STEM disciplines in order to maintain our nation's competitive edge and to "unlock innovation and drive growth."

"Don't be afraid to take risks," McPhail said. "Most importantly, continue to dream and follow your dreams."

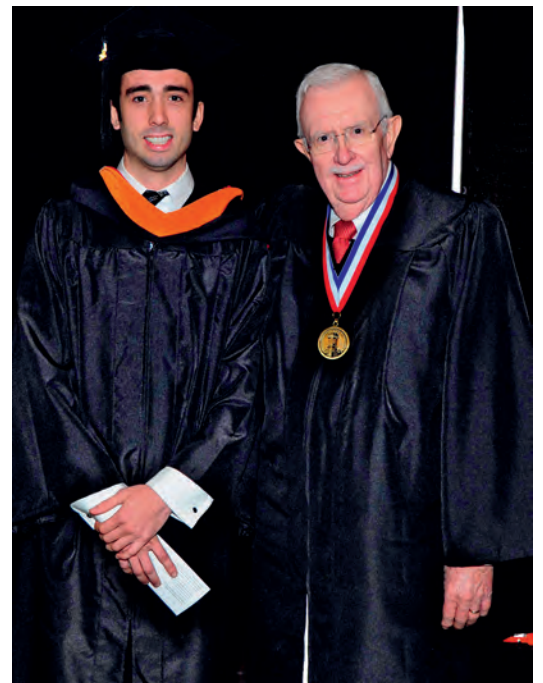
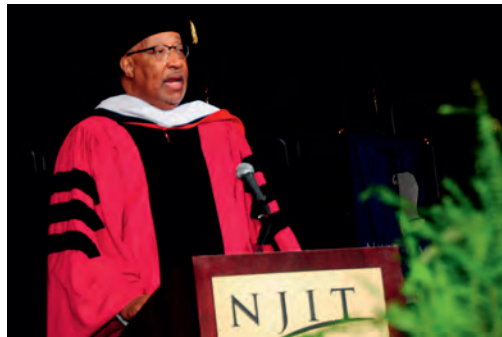
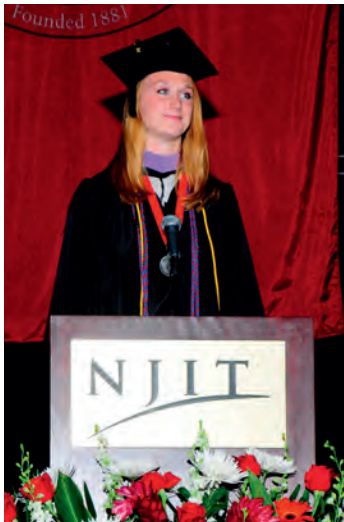
NJIT President Joel S. Bloom, who presided over the ceremony, advised graduates to be open to the good that technological change can bring and to pursue every opportunity to be among the first guiding change in constructive directions toward a future that is healthier, more economically prosperous, culturally vibrant and sustainable.

"Take the lead in breaching the barriers that deny this human connection," Bloom said. "Do whatever you can to foster tolerance and understanding that will benefit men and women of every nation and background. The emerging 'Internet of Things' will fulfill its promise only if it supports caring interconnection among people and provides equitable access to the full range of benefits possible."

A brilliant eruption of red and white confetti marked the conclusion of the 2015 Commencement ceremonies.

**“Don’t be afraid to take risks.
Most importantly, continue to dream
and follow your dreams.”**

— Irving Pressley McPhail, chairman and CEO of NACME



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:

Senior Class President Gretchen Von Koenig, who addressed the Class of 2015 and received a B.S. in industrial design and a B.A. in theatre technology, told her classmates to be “immensely proud of the seat you’re in now.” Von Koenig began her graduate studies in the history of design and curatorial studies this fall at Parsons The New School for Design and the Smithsonian Design Museum.

Irving Pressley McPhail, chairman and chief executive officer of the National Association for Minority Engineering, Inc. (NACME), delivered the 2015 Commencement address and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

Charles Elachi, director of NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory and a vice president at California Institute of Technology, received an honorary Doctor of Science from Board of Trustees Chairman Stephen P. DePalma ’72.

Vatsal Shah ’08, M.S. ’09, Ph.D. ’14 carried the alumni gonfalon in the commencement procession.



William Holden, who received a B.S. in mechanical engineering, with his grandfather, William Chesnut ’58.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

William Chesnut (B.S.M.E. ’58) marched with the Golden Highlanders (alumni who graduated from Newark College of Engineering 50 years ago or more) and saw his grandson, William Holden, receive his B.S. in mechanical engineering. Holden is now employed as a project engineer at his grandfather’s company, Chesnut Engineering, which has been in business in Fairfield for more than 40 years.

“I’m really proud of the education I received at NJIT,” Chesnut said. “There’s no better engineering school than NJIT and I’m proud of my grandson for getting his degree here.”

Holden said he was delighted at the prospect of working for his grandfather, who he said is still “passionate about engineering and about his business.”

“I’m really happy to get my degree and to start working for my grandfather,” Holden said. “It was also really sweet of my grandfather to come here to my graduation. His being here for me made me really happy and made my graduation a great experience.”