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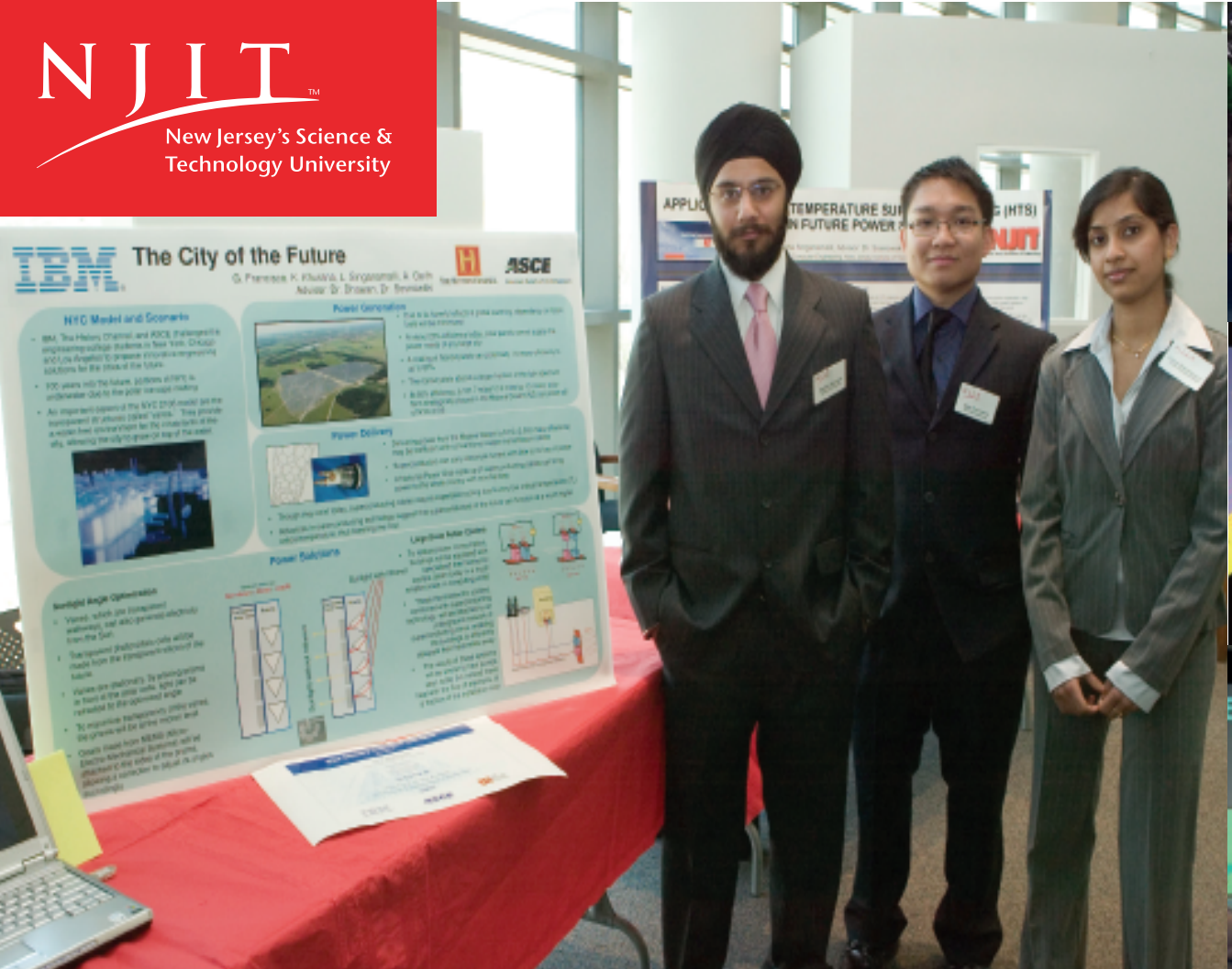

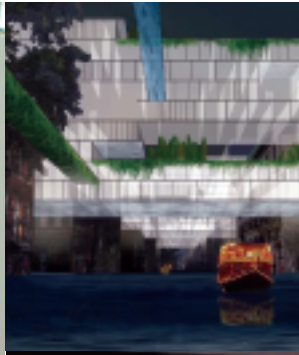

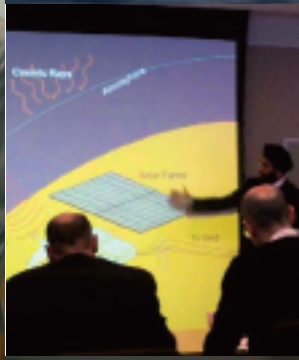

PROVIDING POWER TO A WET 'BIG APPLE'

NJIT Students Create a Winning Solution

How would you bring power – for lighting and heating, communications and transportation – to a New York City rendered partially under water by the effects of global warming?

This was the challenge put before a team of NJIT electrical and computer engineering students in the "City of the Future" Challenge sponsored by IBM and the History Channel in partnership with the American Society of Civil Engineers. NJIT's **Latha Singanamalli, Kiratbir Khurana, Arwa Gheith** and team captain **Gian Francisco** provided a winning solution and earned the titles of "IBM Engineers of the Future."

The goal of the contest was to give students – America's future engineers – a chance to conceive and formulate the engineering marvels of a future city. According to many experts, in a hundred years, large swaths of New York City will submerged in knee-high water. The rivers encircling the city, due to global warming, will have risen dramatically.

The power system the NJIT team created for the contest was futuristic, bold and innovative. Their proposal included building solar farms in southwestern Arizona, where open land and abundant sunshine abound; coating solar panels with nano-crystals, which would absorb the entire light spectrum and be 80 percent efficient; embedding the solar panels with nano-prisms that refract the light directly onto the solar cells; and using superconductive transmission cables to transport the electricity from Arizona to New York City. The team received IBM Thinkpads and shared a $5,000 cash award.

Photo by Guy Chan

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