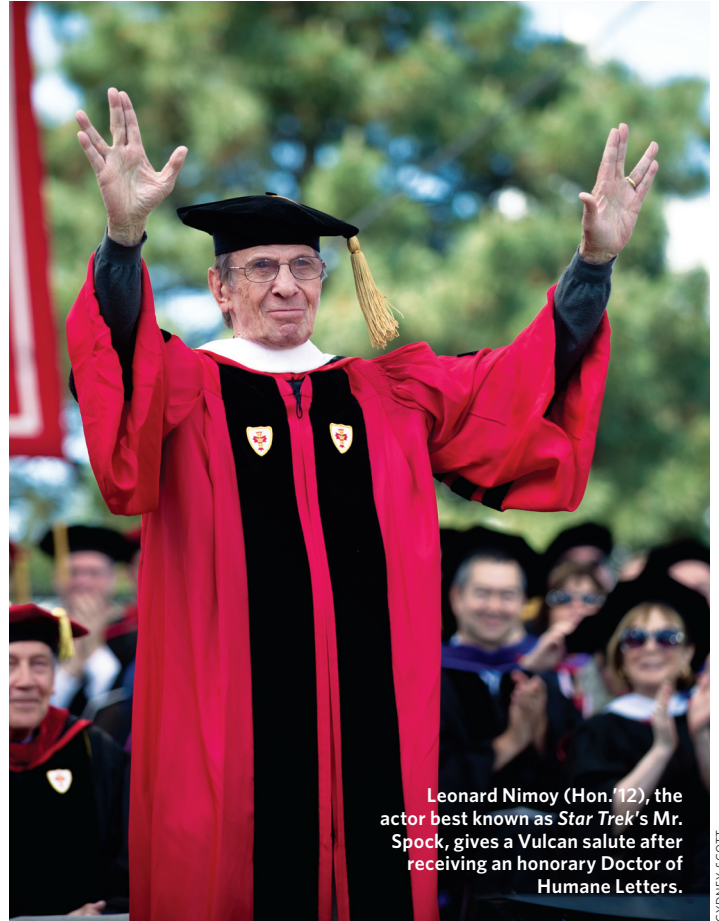


# Commencement 2012

*Google's Eric Schmidt urges graduates to say yes*



MELODY KOMYEROV



Leonard Nimoy (Hon. '12), the actor best known as *Star Trek's* Mr. Spock, gives a Vulcan salute after receiving an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

CYDNEY SCOTT



CHITOSE SUZUKI

President Robert A. Brown (top left) with Sandra L. Lynch (LAW '71, Hon. '12), chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and the Baccalaureate speaker.



WINSLOW MARTIN

“YOUR GENERATION’S OPPORTUNITIES are greater than any generation’s in modern history,” Google’s executive chairman, Eric E. Schmidt, told the graduating seniors at BU’s 139th Commencement ceremony on May 20 at Nickerson Field. “You can write the code for all of us.” Schmidt, who offered his advice to a crowd of 20,000 after receiving an honorary Doctor of Science from President Robert A. Brown, encouraged the Class of 2012 to be innovative and entrepreneurial, and to say yes to opportunities in life. “Yes is a tiny word that can do very big things,” he said. “Yes lets you stand out in a crowd.”



Eric E. Schmidt (Hon.'12) (left) urged graduates to turn off electronic devices for at least an hour a day. "Life is not about your friend count," he said. "It's about the friends you count on."



MATT KALINOWSKI

KRISTYN ULANDAY



"You have the heart. And the future will not beat without you."



WINSLOW MARTIN



Gabe Rivas (SMG'12) (left), one of the 3,300-plus graduating seniors, hugs his mother, Ada Rivas, following the Commencement exercises.

**WEB EXTRA**  
Complete Commencement coverage, including slideshows and videos, can be seen at [bu.edu/bostonia](http://bu.edu/bostonia).