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Educating Women to Excel

November 29, 2000

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Meredith Herald

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Campus sings praises of Moore's Birds

☐ Meredith hears the author read.

> LEESHA AUSTIN Lavout Editor

Members community Meredith gathered along with members of the Raleigh community on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium to listen to author Lorrie Moore read from her works.

Dr. Louise Taylor, head of the department of English, welcomed everyone, introduced Moore, professor of English at the University of Wisconsin, and explained that bringing her to Meredith was made possible through the Mary Lynch Johnson Endowed Chair.

Carolina since I was ten years old. Both my grandfathers were from North Carolina, so it is nice to be back."

She explained that she is currently working on a new project and that she agrees with one of her friends who says, "The beginning of a new book always contains a farewell to the last book.'

Moore began reading from her work in progress about a young woman in college who decides to look for a job as a baby-sitter.

This work proved to be humorous and contained the quirky little details that often flavor her work.

She describes a Chinese restaurant with a box of broken fortune cookies by the register with a sign that says, "Fortune not broken, only cookie."

Dr. Garry Walton, professor of English, said of Moore, "She was even more charming and personable than her

Moore continued with her story of the student seeking a baby-sitting job and said that she had never seen so many pregnant women in her life. She added, "They did not look radiant. They looked reddened with high blood pressure."

Kathryne Gresham, freshman, said of Moore, "She wrote with feeling and made her stories come alive. It felt as if you were in the story."

After Taylor's introduc- Meredith English professors Dr. Sarah English and Nan Miller (Ltion, Moore took the floor R, standing) greet author Lorrie Moore (seated) at a Nov. 18 and said, "This is the first reading for English majors and faculty in the Alumnae House.

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Potential vice presidents visit campus

☐ Meredith meets the first of three finalists.

LINDSEY MCADAMS

One of the three finalists in contention for the position of vice president for Institutional Advancement said that he hopes to build academics through fundraising efforts at an meeting for staff on Thursday, Nov. 16 from 3-4:30 p.m. in Ledford Hall. Dr. Murphy Osborne, who currently holds the position that chairs fund raising and raising support for the College within the larger community, will retire at the end of this semester.

David A. Gesue, president and chief executive officer of a nonprofit organization in N.Y., is a seasoned fund raiser who said he would bring his fund raising and management skills to Meredith where he would work to increase the amount of money donated to the college. He has raised over \$1 million dollars for his nonprofit, the Buffalo General Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y.

Also at Culver Academy in N.Y. he helped raise the most money ever raised by a secondary independent school when he sought out potential donors and got donations for the school's capital campaign. The final total reached sixtyfive million dollars.

Gesue, who lives in East Aurora, N.Y. with his wife, graduated from Gannon University in Pennsylvania with bachelor of arts degrees in English and philosophy. He furthered his degrees in English and philosophy by going to graduate school at Gannon and at Indiana University.

At the meeting Gesue told

Dr. Jean Jackson, the chair of the search committee and vice president for Student Development, Dr. Betty Webb, English professor and the director of study abroad; Dr. Garry Walton, English professor and director of the Honors Program; and Dr. Bob Vance, professor of religion and philosophy that money from fundraising could be used for different projects, such as supplementary money for the new science building or for funding more scholarships. These projects would build academics and bring in the right kind of stu-

Walton asked Gesue, "How would you work with alumnae so they will be willing to donate money?"

Gesue replied that he would increase alumnae involvement at Meredith, suggesting the College publish success stories about alumnae in a newsletter.

Another of his suggestions was the expansion of Cornhuskin' activities to include alumnae. Audience members came up with several other ideas including a weekend for twenty-three plus alumnae, a weekend for mothers and daughters, and recognition for siblings, grandparents and parents of alumnae.

His ideas to increase money given to the college focused on alumnae. Gesue pointed to them as key potential donors to the college

One idea that interested several audience members was a Women in Philanthropy symposium that would be held at Meredith.

Gesue said that the college has enough room to house peo-

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