

UNC Faculty Praise Moeser's Experience, Unique Background

By KIM MINUGH
Assistant University Editor

Applauding James Moeser's administrative experience and liberal arts background, UNC faculty members say they are anxious for the University's next leader to take the reins.

And some have already noted marked similarities between his agenda and that of the late Chancellor Michael Hooker, who pledged, like Moeser, to make UNC the best public university in America.

Faculty members say Moeser's experience and reputation will facilitate his transition into the UNC administration.

"His being a person who knows the ropes of the academic world - he has learned what it's like to live and work at all levels," said Department of English Chairman William Andrews.

"We want someone at the helm who knows the environment of working at all levels. I think we can expect good things from (Moeser's) arrival."

Richard Edwards, dean of the School of Social Work, agreed, saying Moeser

left a good first impression in their first brief meeting Friday.

"I was impressed by his energy, enthusiasm and the knowledge he already had about the UNC system," Edwards said.

Some faculty said the limited focus in Moeser's earlier education should not hinder his ability to lead the University.

"I'm not sure about his vast academic background, but

he had extensive administrative background and that's probably more important," said economics Professor Boone Turchi.

"I look forward to working with him."

But while Moeser's academic pursuits seem to deviate from the norm of past UNC chancellors, faculty members say such differences could prove to be an asset.

They show little worry that the organ-

ist-turned-administrator will be able to cater to all the University's academic needs.

"A chancellor at a major university isn't like being a CEO of a major business, where he can just order something and get it done," Turchi said.

He said UNC's leader should work with faculty, staff and students to achieve a common vision, not the

vision of a particular group.

Bill Marzluff, associate dean of research for the School of Medicine, said he had no concerns about Moeser's competence in leading UNC.

"He has experience in jobs just like this and appears to have been very successful. He knows a broad range of administration," Marzluff said.

"Even though the committee finished kind of fast, I think we should be very happy because it sounds like we got a good person."

"It'll make a difference in the next few years."

Others champion the change of pace Moeser could bring to the University with his liberal arts vision and passion for music.

"To have someone in the humanities and fine arts is wonderful because it's the part of the University that needs listening to, as it is easier to pay attention to the sciences, which have easier access to the limelight through scientific discoveries and such," said Department of Music Chairman John Nadas.

"We're happy to have a humanist at the top."

Some faculty members found Moeser's musical background to be refreshing.

"I'm delighted that he's interested in music, and maybe something will happen to (Hill Hall)," said law Professor Brian Bromberger, referring to the deteriorating conditions of UNC's music

library.

"It seems like a perfectly savvy appointment to me."

Journalism Professor Chuck Stone said Moeser's administration could potentially rival that of Hooker's.

"There are three words that could describe (Moeser) - academic excellence, intellectual diversity and versatility," said Stone, who served on the search committee that chose Hooker in 1995.

"If he had been before Hooker's (selection committee), he would have been a strong competitor."

Stone said Moeser's musical intellect would not diminish his worth as a scholar.

"He's a liberal arts scholar. I have absolutely no problem with this choice," he said.

"I'm kind of surprised we got someone this good. It attests to a certain amount of (the University's) prestige that we got someone like him."

Stone said Moeser may field criticism for taking a scholarly position without ever having published. But Stone said this was no measure of his abilities.

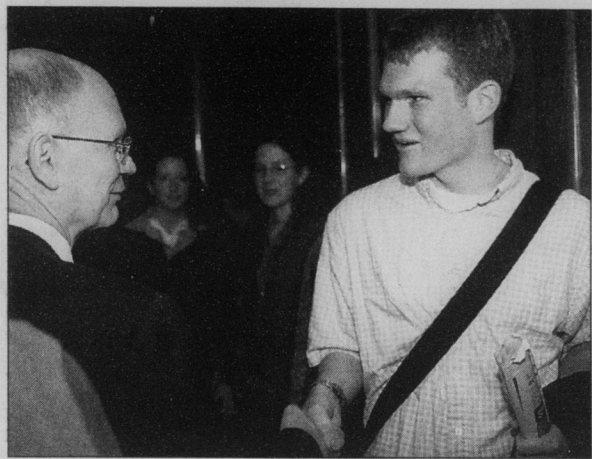
"He plays the organ - he is a scholar."

Former Faculty Chairman Pete Andrews said he saw a trace of Hooker in Moeser's hopes for the University.

"He's really the kind of person we're looking for, the ideal kind of successor to (Hooker) to build further on the roots begun to set down," he said.

"We're ready for leadership. We're a developing campus ready to take off - we just need a chancellor's leadership."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.



DTH/MILLER PEARSALE

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SENIORS: If your plans are definite for next year (accepted a job or admission to graduate/professional school), please complete the UCS Employment/Graduate School Survey, available on the web at <http://www.unc.edu/depts/career/yendsrv.html>.

WORKSHOPS: (no sign-up necessary) Seniors must attend UCS 101 to participate in on-campus recruiting even if registered last year.

Introduction to Internships	Mon. Apr. 17	3:00 pm	209 Hanes Hall
Career Clinic	Mon. Apr. 17	3:15 pm	1st Floor Nash Hall
Career Clinic	Thurs. Apr. 20	3:30 pm	1st Floor Nash Hall

EMPLOYER PRESENTATIONS: (Presentations open to all interested students unless otherwise specified)

The Fund for Public Interest Research & Human Rights Campaign	Mon. Apr. 17	10am - 3pm - Student Union Lobby	6pm & 8pm - 306 Hanes Hall
	Tues. Apr. 18	1:00 pm - 213 Student Union	6pm & 8pm - 306 Hanes Hall

ORGANIZATIONS RECRUITING Apr. 24 - Apr. 28 ("Open" sign-up will begin Wed. Apr. 19)

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