

Vt. Senate: Gays Can Legally Wed

A Vermont bill allowing gays and lesbians the same rights as married couples awaits Senate approval.

Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. — A bill that would create the closest thing in America to gay marriage won preliminary approval in the state Senate on Tuesday after a debate watched by people wearing either white ribbons or pink stickers to show where they stood.

The 19-11 vote came after the Senate defeated two proposed constitutional amendments designed to outlaw same-sex marriage.

The bill will be up for final approval in the Senate on Wednesday.

A similar measure has already passed the House, but that chamber will have to consider changes made by the Senate. Democratic Gov. Howard Dean has said he would sign the bill.

The measure would enable gay couples to form "civil unions" that would entitle them to all 300 or so rights and benefits available under state law to married couples.

No other state has gone as far as Vermont to give gay couples something approximating marriage.

However, Vermont's gay couples would still not be entitled to the federal benefits available to married couples in such areas as taxes and Social Security.

And unlike marriage, civil unions would not confer portable rights.

Other states are not likely to recognize gay unions.

CHANCELLOR

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in 1958. Paul Hardin, Fordham's successor, lived in six N.C. towns during his childhood as the son of a minister.

And Hooker was a proud UNC graduate who, during his 1995 acceptance speech to the Board of Trustees, said it had been his ultimate professional ambition to lead UNC.

"I'm coming home, and it is a delight to be home," he exulted.

But Moeser is a Longhorn, having earned two degrees in music from the University of Texas-Austin.

His only academic experience in the Carolinas was his tenure as vice chancellor for academic affairs and then provost at the University of South Carolina.

And as chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Moeser immersed himself in working within the state's unicameral legislature and the university system it oversaw.

But on Friday, sporting a Carolina-blue striped tie, he immediately pulled up his cornhusker roots and planted new ones on Tobacco Road.

"I feel like I've been a North Carolinian all my life, but I've never lived here before," Moeser said in his first University public speech Friday.

"I know a new definition of what the word 'Carolina' means."

Moeser and UNC-system President Molly Broad have repeatedly defended the incoming chancellor's outsider status.

"As special as North Carolina is, it doesn't require a degree from this institution or a history of having lived in this state to understand what the issues are and to provide the critical leadership

that this institution needs," Moeser told The Daily Tar Heel on Saturday.

"In fact, I would argue that one of my strengths is that all of my education has been in two major flagship universities ... I bring multiple perspectives into North Carolina."

That experience at flagship schools pushed Moeser to the top of the chancellor candidate roster, Broad said.

It also puts him ahead of most of his predecessors where education administration is concerned.

Hooker and Moeser are an elite duo on the UNC chancellor list, the only two leaders to ever have guided a flagship school or a major university — Hooker as president of the University of Massachusetts system and Moeser at the helm of Nebraska.

Moeser jumped around higher education institutions at a fairly rapid pace — going from the University of South Carolina to Nebraska to UNC in less than a decade. But Hooker steered the UMass system for only three years before moving home to North Carolina.

Moeser plans to keep his office as UNC chancellor for the nine years until his 70th birthday, which must be his final retirement date according to the University constitution.

"Hooker and Moeser have quite similar career tracks in that apparently, in their mid-30s, they chose positions that would help them pursue their destinations at the top of administrations," Sanders said.

"I think it's important that a chancellor recognize the centrality of intellectualism on a college campus, which Hooker and Moeser both do. But that doesn't mean they are scholars."

Chancellors since Frank Porter Graham have had little teaching and academic publishing experience, Sanders

A New Addition to UNC's Cast of Chancellors

James Moeser is the latest to take a bow in the University's story of leadership. His leadership style is remarkably similar to that of Michael Hooker.



Christopher N. Fordham
1980-1988



Paul Hardin
1988-1995



Michael Hooker
1995-1999



William McCoy
1999-2000



James Moeser
2000

DTH/T JAY RICHARDS

said, and pointed out that even UNC-system Presidents Friday, C.D. Spangler and Broad fall under the category of administrators rather than academics.

And Moeser, with his extensive background in musicology but brief teaching experience compared to his administrative career, fits that bill perfectly.

Broad said Moeser's love for the undergraduate experience set him apart from the other chancellor candidates — and, in a way, reminded her of Hooker.

"I think that, in many ways, Hooker and James are very much alike," Broad said. "Both are at the hearts of arts and sciences as compared with the professional programs, and they're both so deeply embedded in curricula, especially at the undergraduate level."

"Their love of the humanities puts them together." Broad also said the University would again have a leader who very much trusted his administration and who would delegate many duties.

"James Moeser is a very much hands-on administrator, and I think in that

regard inevitably you're going to see differences between any two leaders," she said. "Michael was a visionary who could articulate the goals and aspirations of Carolina, and largely delegated the realization of those goals to his vice chancellors."

"I think James will also do a major amount of delegation, but recall that he talked about the importance of the chancellor in engaging the faculty in thinking and planning for the University."

Both Hooker and Moeser have been criticized for too closely paying attention to the academic bottom line — in rankings and in finances.

Hooker pushed for chaired professorships and more research dollars, which would in turn raise the University's research profile, particularly in national rankings. And Moeser has reiterated Hooker's goal of making UNC the top public institution in the country.

"We'll be the best public university in America ... in any measurable way that you can measure a university's reputa-

tion," Moeser said of his goals for UNC.

Moeser caught criticism and congratulation for instituting admissions standards at Nebraska, which some faculty and students have claimed initiated a sense of elitism at the University of Nebraska's flagship campus.

And under Hooker's leadership, that very same criticism was often reiterated, particularly in the face of rising tuition.

"I think it's not unreasonable that students who are able should, in fact, pay a larger portion of the burden but still relying on the state to provide the major subsidies," Moeser said.

His remarks sparked worry in several student leaders who led this year's fight against a proposed tuition increase that now rests in the hands of the N.C. General Assembly.

And, like his predecessors, Moeser will have to work within that legislature to get what he wants for his university — and his success remains to be seen.

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

COMPARISON

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But a number of characteristics of the student body make the two schools appear very similar on paper.

UNC's student population of 24,180 is only slightly higher than UNL's student size at 22,142.

The same percentage of students come from within the state (82 percent at each school).

Even the Greek systems appear almost identical.

UNL has 24 fraternities and 16 sororities that comprise 16 percent of the undergraduate population.

At UNC, there are 28 fraternities and 19 sororities, representing 18 percent of undergraduates.

The most obvious difference between the schools stems from what these similar student bodies study.

Out of the Hayseeds

With UNL's charter as a land-grant university, the school includes several departments foreign to the UNC curriculum.

Instead, UNL pours a large amount of money and attention toward the areas of agriculture and engineering — two industries ignored for the most part with UNC's emphasis on the liberal arts.

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at UNL receives about a third of the university's total budgetary resources, said IANR Vice Chancellor Irv Omtvedt.

"(Agriculture's) a very important part of the Nebraska program because agriculture is the No. 1 industry in the state. We are more like N.C. State from the agricultural program side," Omtvedt said.

Like N.C. State, UNL is split into two campuses, divided by about a mile of

space, with one campus devoted solely to agriculture research such as seed breeding and livestock study.

Despite this agrarian focus, the school's Arts and Sciences Department contains the most students, largely because it encompasses the majority of UNL's humanities and science concentrations.

"We're very strong in agriculture as well as in the sciences, but we have been fortunate to offer a wealth of options for research especially in the undergraduate level," said UNL Student Body President Joel Schafer.

The school also includes programs in engineering and technology, a college of architecture and an honors residence hall specifically for computer science and computer engineering students.

Despite the lack of these programs at UNC, Moeser's colleagues said they did not think he would miss the changes.

"Personally, I would say this is a beautiful match (at UNC). His interests and background in fine arts and the humanities are very strong," Omtvedt said.

But Moeser will have to contend with new academic territories when he comes to UNC.

UNL lacks a medical department or school such as UNC's nationally known School of Medicine and hospital system.

"James is quick to identify that the School of Medicine will be a new part of the University program," said UNC-system President Molly Broad.

"Having Jeff Houpt (UNC dean of the School of Medicine) in that role will give Moeser ample opportunity to learn what the issues are."

Broad said that while UNL's programs such as engineering and agriculture were not offered at UNC, she was confident Moeser's academic visions would meld with UNC's mission.

She pointed to the similarities between UNC's push to improve its intellectual climate and Moeser's work in expanding the honors program at UNL.

Also, in Moeser's State of the University Address in fall 1999, he outlined a plan to "establish a university-wide First-Year Charter Seminar to introduce first-year students to the academic community and the skills needed to be a successful student" — an idea remarkably similar to the First-Year Initiative implemented at UNC this year.

"I think it's all very compatible," Broad said.

Diversity Differences

One of the most visible, or invisible, characteristics at UNL is a lack of minority students, an issue that Moeser tackled in-depth while still at Nebraska.

UNL's minority students only represent 6 percent of its total student body.

"The population bases of the states are very different," Moeser said.

"(At Nebraska) I was interested in recruiting out-of-state for much needed

diversity."

Moeser also made the issue a focus for the university's administration and released a Comprehensive Diversity Plan last summer.

Under Moeser, a number of faculty and administrative committees were established to strengthen and increase diversity at UNL.

It was these efforts that prompted several minority leaders at UNC to say they did not feel uncomfortable with UNL's racial disparity.

"I've read extensively about the diversity plan he pushed through Nebraska," said Archie Irvin, director for Minority Affairs at UNC.

"It's one of the more comprehensive plans I've seen at a University like that," he said.

Despite the small percentage of minority students at UNL, several minority student groups, including the Asian Students Association, Mexican Student Association and African Peoples Union converge at a common Cultural Center on campus.

UNC's Black Student Movement President Tyra Brooks said she did not feel uncomfortable about Moeser's transition from a school with a lower representation of minority students.

"My first impression of him and reading his bio, I feel really confident that he's very open to change."

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Christine E. Lee, MD

CONFERENCE

From Page 1

at hand.

Gwen Frisbee-Fulton, a junior sociology major from Chapel Hill, said the police were covert in their actions. The unidentified police wore gas masks as they pepper-sprayed and tear-gassed protesters, she said.

Frisbee-Fulton counted 200 undercover police officers in her immediate area. Many of the officers refused to show their badges when asked by demonstrators, she said.

"They had handcuffs sticking out of their pockets," she said. "It was random how the streets were blocked. People were running frantically from the police."

Etai Rosenbaum, a sophomore philosophy major, said he witnessed police violence toward protesters when he and others formed a human chain by clapping hands to block IMF delegates' access to their meeting in the 14th Street building.

"One cop nailed one guy in the face with a billy club," he said.

Rosenbaum said he saw no violence toward the police.

"The police pepper sprayed people," he said. "A guy who was trying to photograph the police got pepper sprayed in the eye. I got sprayed in the eye."

Rosenbaum also said police on horseback used pepper spray, and that 20 mounted police officers had their horses kick at the protesters to drive them back.


Karl Schmid, a freshman physics-astronomy major, said he was one of the five protesters pepper-sprayed by a police officer. He said officers had ordered them to cease barricading the IMF building and when they refused, they were struck with batons.

Schmid said he was only struck lightly, but he said he saw an officer violently strike another person in the arm and shoulder.

Chapel Hill High School students also attended the protest but were unable to participate in the press conference.

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W. B. YEATS



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