

# County Plots Out Decade's Spending Moeser's Chore: Balancing UNC Athletics, Academics

BY TRICIA BARRIOS  
Staff Writer

With no obstacles presented by the public, county officials decided to move Orange County's Capital Investment Plan onto the next session for discussion.

County manager John Link unveiled the \$224.8-million plan that will govern Orange County's expenditures for the next decade at Monday night's meeting. The CIP designates the way the county's money will be spent in construction and renovation of public facilities.

Commissioner Barry Jacobs said the purpose of the hearing was to give the public a chance to make their voices heard in local government.

"We want to make sure people have the opportunity to review the plan and comment," he said.

Jacobs said the plan had far-reaching significance for Orange County resi-

dents. "It's the blueprint of the major expenditures in the next decade," he said.

Link said the plan would tackle the county's significant needs with long-range initiatives.

"It addresses the most important needs and new projects," he said.

"These initiatives will continue over the next 12 to 18 months."

Jacobs said the plan covered a wide variety of capital projects.

"It runs the gamut," he said. "It ranges from construction to Land's Legacy."

Aside from construction and renovation, the plan includes the findings from the "Lands Legacy Program for Orange County," a report from the

Environmental Resource and Conservation Department.

The report is aimed at preserving the county's natural and cultural resources and farmland.

The environmental initiative comes as a significant increase from last year's allocation.

*"We want to make sure people have the opportunity to review the plan and comment."*

**BARRY JACOBS**  
Orange County Commissioner

County Commissioner Margaret Brown attributed the increase to the county's future plans to buy land.

"We're going to start purchasing property to leave as open space and parks," she said.

Jacobs said the main sources of revenue would come from sales and property taxes that were based on the projected spending. He said the plan did not forecast a raise in taxes.

Link said the current capital investment plan reserved some money to help fund the county's projects.

"The good news is in the capital investment plan that we have money set aside so that you won't have to borrow as much," he told the county commissioners at the hearing.

The commissioners will continue to discuss the CIP at their next meeting on April 24.

The City Editor can be reached at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

The chancellor-elect, though supportive of athletics, says coaches' salaries in the U.S. are "terribly skewed."

BY BRIAN MURPHY  
Senior Writer

In North Carolina, Chancellor-elect James Moeser will be making more money than the men's basketball coach.

That's the way he thinks it should be. In his final week at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the school lured Barry Collier away from Butler University with a lucrative five-year, \$1 million package, plus incentives, to resurrect the Cornhuskers' program.

Moeser expressed concern that the school's new coach was being paid more than him. In an interview with the Omaha World-Herald after Collier's hiring, Moeser said coaches' salaries were an example of "a terribly skewed and distorted picture in the United States."

"I think the chancellor ought to make more than the basketball coach," Moeser said. "I think a lot of full professors who excel in scholarship and research ought to make at least as much,

if not more" than the coach.

Men's basketball coach Bill Guthridge, the Tar Heels' highest paid coach, makes \$164,440.

Moeser will earn \$255,000 when he takes the helm Aug. 15.

Nebraska Athletics Director Bill Byrne said Moeser's comments, which appeared in the paper April 10, did not mean Moeser was out to destroy athletics. "He understands the market and what is required," Byrne said. "But in a perfect world, the boss should make more than the person who works for him, and that makes a lot of sense to me."

UNC Director of Athletics Dick Baddour, who has not met Moeser, said the Department of Athletics would have to adjust to his leadership style. Baddour reports directly to the chancellor and has met regularly with previous leaders.

He said he looked forward to discussing aspects of UNC's 28-sport program with Moeser.

"I'll talk with him about everything from our mission and the focus of the department to the history and tradition, to ongoing issues like the budget and Title IX and seating in the Smith Center," Baddour said.

While Nebraska's basketball program

doesn't measure up to the Tar Heels' tradition, the Cornhuskers do have a strong athletic tradition, from football on down. Nebraska currently ranks second in the Sears Cup standings, a competition among entire athletic programs. UNC is seventh.

But during his four years in Lincoln, Moeser had to answer to critics who suggested his tougher admissions standards would hurt the powerful Huskers football team. In one response, he called UNC a place where academics and athletics mixed successfully.

"I don't think we lost the Texas A&M game because of academic standards," Moeser told the Omaha World-Herald in late 1998. "It certainly hasn't hurt the University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina or Duke. I don't believe there will be any negative effect on a strong athletic program."

Baddour said Moeser's background at schools with prominent athletic programs, such as Michigan, Texas, Penn State and Nebraska, underscores the new chancellor's knowledge of athletics. Byrne said fans of the Tar Heels should not be worried.

"He was a big supporter of Nebraska athletics," Byrne said. "He never missed a game. He was a strong representative in the Big 12 conference. If I was at North Carolina, I would not have a moments hesitation about Dr. Moeser's commitment to intercollegiate athletics."

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



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**David Berlinski**

Thursday April 20 3:30pm

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speaks about his new book  
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