

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 114, ISSUE 64

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2006

www.dailytarheel.com

Moeser readies annual address

BY WHITNEY KISLING
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Six years ago Chancellor James Moeser started a tradition when he issued the first State of the University address, and today he still pens it himself.

"It certainly helps me to focus where I want to lead this University over the year," Moeser said.

The sixth annual address, to be held at 3 p.m. today in the Great Hall of the Student Union, will give Moeser a way to engage the community and detail University projects.

Some of the topics he will cover are graduation rates, research, state engagement and globalization.

In years past, Moeser has used the address to make major announcements. In 2003 he introduced the Carolina Covenant program — an



Chancellor James Moeser will talk about graduation rates, research, globalization and service.

initiative that allows low-income students to graduate debt-free.

Moeser declined to say whether he will make any similar revelations during today's address.

Joe Templeton, the faculty chairman, said the speech helps set a tone for the year.

"I think that ... at an institution the size of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the tone is set from the top," he said. "We kind of need some big common targets

that everyone can agree on."

Graduation rates have become a hot topic recently, and Moeser said he plans to address the issue.

"The Board of Trustees has been focusing a lot on graduation rates," he said. "I'm going to be much more specific in targets."

University officials hope to increase graduation rates and will present a report that details methods to improve retention to the board later this semester.

They also are considering a policy change in which students would have to petition UNC to take a ninth semester of classes.

The progress of the Task Force on Engagement with North Carolina — which was announced at last year's address — also will be noted.

The task force focuses on three

ATTEND THE SPEECH

Time: 3 p.m.

Date: Today

Location: Great Hall of the Student Union

aspects of University-state relations: K-12 education, health care and the economy.

"What we're looking at is how does this three-fold mission fit into a way in which we are engaged as a University with the state of North Carolina or the world," said Kevin FitzGerald, special assistant to the chancellor and a member of the task force.

Globalization has been on Moeser's agenda since his first address, and it's been a popular issue among officials. UNC recently announced a dual-degree program with the National

University of Singapore.

Moeser said that he will discuss globalization today but that he will give the issue greater emphasis at the opening of the Global Education Center later this year.

"I'm delighted that it's going to be one of the topics that he'll address," said Marjorie Crowell, the assistant provost for international affairs.

FitzGerald said the speech will echo the mission Moeser spoke about during his first address.

"This really is about the steps that the University is taking to really marry up the idea of being a great and a good public university."

Staff Writer Colin Campbell contributed to this report. Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Past addresses

2005 Moeser announced the creation of the Task Force on Engagement with North Carolina and focused on international engagement.

2004 After his travels to Singapore, Moeser said he wanted to increase globalization at UNC and become more devoted to public service.

2003 Moeser revealed the Carolina Covenant program, which allows some students to graduate debt-free.

2002 In light of the terrorist attacks Sept. 11, 2001, Moeser commended the University's handling of the summer reading selection. He also addressed the budget shortfall.

2001 For his first address, Moeser talked about three main issues for the University — monetary needs, the academic plan and campus growth.

Tuition talks fire out of gate

Task force lays initial foundation

BY ERIN ZUREICK
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

The tuition advisory task force began to lay the groundwork Tuesday for this year's talks.

The initial meeting focused on briefing task force members about policy background and history — the tough work of pinpointing specific numbers won't begin until later this month.

Provost Bernadette Gray-Little, co-chairwoman of the task force, began the meeting by instructing members about their dual responsibilities: to balance the economic impact hikes have on students and to ensure that UNC's academic quality continues to improve.

"It's a very important process and important task," she said. The group, which will have to adapt to any restrictions or guidelines handed down by the UNC-system Board of Governors, got its first taste Tuesday of what it might be up against.

SEE TUITION, PAGE 6



Bernadette Gray-Little reminded the task force of its lofty charge.

VICTIM GETS DAY OF JUSTICE

BY TED STRONG
SENIOR WRITER

The man who drove onto a Carrboro sidewalk, injuring a blind woman and killing her Seeing Eye dog was sentenced Wednesday to four months in prison for driving while impaired.

After hitting the two on Oct. 5, Stephen Coffee, a former employee of Chapel Hill bar He's Not Here who had been out all night drinking, drove home.

Judge Orlando Hudson Jr. also imposed a concurrent 45-day sentence on Coffee, of Carrboro, for after-hours drinking and two years of parole with a suspended six- to eight-month sentence for the actual hit-and-run, a felony.

"I think his actions require some sort of active sentence," Hudson said.

Hudson also ordered Coffee to pay restitution to Danielle "Aoife" Iredale, the woman Coffee hit.

Coffee pled guilty on all counts.

The judge also denounced Coffee for topping off his bundle of misdemeanors with a felony by turning the accident into a hit-and-run.

"Bad judgement continued, obviously, when you left the scene, and that's why you ended up with a felony," Hudson said.

Before the sentencing, Iredale spoke about the impact the accident had on her.

She said she sustained several physical injuries, including a broken leg, along with bleeding inside her skull that caused some brain damage.

She also said she suffered short-term memory loss and other brain difficulties, including problems understanding language.

"People would talk to me, and I could understand the words, but I wasn't able to translate that into anything meaningful," Iredale said.

Iredale, who was struck at a bus stop on BPW Club Road, said that some of the ill effects faded but that others, such as post traumatic stress disorder and clinical depression, have been harder to shed.

She said the accident significantly undermined her faith in the world she must navigate.

"I really never thought about the underlying risk of being a blind person travelling on a daily basis," she said.

"The hit-and-run shattered that trust."

During her testimony, Iredale said she had trouble finding a job or doing anything beyond baseline functions because of hardships brought on by the accident.

She finished her testimony with a poem she wrote about Inka, her

SEE COFFEE, PAGE 6



Hit-and-run victim Danielle "Aoife" Iredale sits with her new Seeing Eye dog, Flurry, on Tuesday as she awaits the sentencing of Stephen Coffee at the Orange County Courthouse in Hillsborough.

Shooting heroes honored

BY RACHEL ULLRICH
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

"I don't usually get to introduce heroes," county spokeswoman Anne D'Annunzio said at an Orange County Board of Education meeting Tuesday.

This meeting was an exception, she said.

At the beginning of the meeting she recognized four men from Orange County who exhibited exemplary efforts in response to last week's shooting at Orange High School.

Deputy London Ivey, former state trooper Russell LeBlanc,

SEE HEROES, PAGE 6



Board Chairman Dennis Whiting presents an award to Orange County Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass to honor the swift response to the shooting.

Students lament ticketing policy

BY STEPHANIE NEWTON
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Unclaimed tickets for Saturday's football game versus Virginia Tech, the online system's first test, are up for grabs.

Clint Gwaltney, associate athletic director for ticket and Smith Center operations, said 7,200 students registered for the game using the online ticketing system. After accounting for the marching band, block seating and Carolina Fever, 9,500 tickets were available.

Gwaltney said 4,750 confirmation e-mails were sent out to students, who could receive two tickets, but not all of the tickets were claimed.

He declined to say how many

GET YOUR TICKET

Time: 8 a.m.

Date: Today

Location: Smith Center ticket office

Info: www.tarheelblue.com

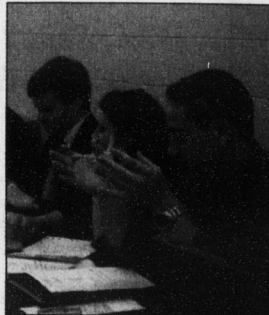
tickets remain.

A second notice was delivered to those who failed to obtain tickets from the lottery the first time around, noting that extra tickets are available at the ticket office.

On the heels of the system's first trial run, Student Congress held a public hearing Tuesday to sift through concerns and questions.

Select Congress members and about a dozen students gathered in

SEE TICKETS, PAGE 6



Tyler Younts (right) and other members of Student Congress bring up students' concerns about ticket distribution at a Tuesday night hearing.

announcement

WE'RE HIRING

Want to join the nation's top college newspaper? Meet the editors at an interest meeting from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Union 3203. See you there.

inside

SAFE AND SOUND UNC-system schools address campus security, PAGE 4

NO SMOKING North Carolina leaders say teen smoking is decreasing, PAGE 4

PERFECT CIRCLE Memorial Hall set for Thursday, Friday show, PAGE 7

sports | page 13

STICKING IT TO THEM

UNC field hockey team disposes of Davidson in a 2-0 shutout, but both players and Coach Karen Shelton said improvement is needed.



this day in history

SEPT. 6, 1994 ...

Officials say UNC's December graduates will for the first time in 10 years have a full commencement ceremony, complete with speakers, academic regalia and a reception.

weather



A.M. rain
H 81, L 60

index

police log 2
calendar 2
games 9
sports 13
opinion 14