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AN ANALYSIS OF CHANCELLOR JAMES MOESER'S PERFORMANCE DURING HIS SEVEN YEARS IN OFFICE AND HIS RETIREMENT PLANS



MONDAY SPOTLIGHT

Moeser takes stock of UNC career

BY SHARI FELD
SENIOR WRITER

As James Moeser wraps up his seventh year as chancellor, many of his initiatives are well on their way or close to wrapping up, leading to speculation of his impending retirement.

Other signs are there. Chancellors on average retire in fewer than seven years.

The last UNC chancellor to announce his retirement was Paul Hardin, whose seven-year reign lasted until 1995.

Hardin retired at the successful end of the Bicentennial Campaign, his fundraising initiative. Moeser's major fundraising initiative, Carolina First, will end in December.

Moeser was inducted this year into the Order of the Golden Fleece — an honor often bestowed on students or faculty near the completion of their time at UNC.

And unlike the beginning of the year, when he told The Daily Tar Heel that he never thought about retiring, Moeser now said he occasionally contemplates the idea.

"I don't have a timetable, but I do think about it from time to time," he said.

But he made sure to reiterate that it's not going to happen this year.

When that yet-to-be-determined time does come for Moeser, he said he will stay involved in the campus community.

"I have no interest in coming to a point of rest," he said.

Moeser's top achievements

Moeser has met success in making an education at UNC more attainable, in fundraising and in making the University a more diverse, global arena.

The establishment and growth of Carolina Covenant is one of Moeser's proudest moments. The initiative has more than doubled in size since its inception three years ago to allow about 345 students from historically low-income families to attend UNC and graduate debt-free.

"It is right where we want it to be," Moeser said.

He defers most of the credit for the program's success to Shirley Ort, associate provost and director of scholarships and student aid.

"It was the gleam in her eye," Moeser said.

But Ort said her boss's consistent advocacy and national publicity efforts have laid a solid foundation for the program and ensured its continued eminence.

"I think the Covenant will go on regardless of who's chancellor," Ort said. "The community owns it. Because it's such a part of our core values, I think the Covenant will endure for generations to follow."

The long-term impact of Carolina Covenant, Moeser said, is that more students from low-income families see a UNC education as a realistic goal and then actually apply to the University.

Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine has ranked UNC No.



DTH/LAUREN COWART

Chancellor James Moeser talks with the Board of Visitors at a question-and-answer session on April 13 at the Carolina Inn. Though he's in his seventh year and has wrapped up several key projects including meeting the Carolina First fundraising goal, Moeser said he thinks about retirement but isn't ready yet.

1 for five consecutive surveys for offering the best value among the best 100 public American universities.

The average graduate from a public university borrows \$17,000 to pay for college, but the average UNC graduate borrows less than \$11,750, despite steady tuition increases.

"With significant increases in tuition, we always hold harmless need-based aid to students," Moeser said.

More than 20 other institutions have created programs modeled after Carolina Covenant.

Another of Moeser's major accomplishments has been Carolina First Campaign — a

major fundraising initiative for the University that began July 1, 1999 and ends Dec. 31, 2007. The campaign already has reached 104 percent of its original \$2 billion goal, which was raised to \$2.1 billion.

Carolina First funds faculty and student support, research, strategic initiatives and building the campus.

Research funding has increased by 72 percent since 1999. The 2006 research budget was \$593 million.

Efforts to increase globalization and diversity continue to guide major University decisions and earned Moeser the Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership

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Doors open for athletes seeking entry

BY SHARI FELD, PAUL KIERNAN AND LAURA LEVIN
SPECIAL TO THE DTH

It wasn't that Amelia Black was ashamed to be on the track team. But at times, the sophomore tried

to avoid revealing her identity as an athlete to professors for worry of being labeled unfairly.

"If I got to a teacher's office hours, even though I might have practice right after class, I might not want to go in my track clothes," said Black, a former member of the track team who came to UNC on an academic scholarship.

"They think you're going to come expecting a handout," she said.

Black is one of many student-athletes at the University who say they face an uphill battle in convincing others that they deserved their admission tickets and can succeed academically at UNC.

"If you're an athlete, you have to bear the burden of that one athlete or those few athletes that bring down the curve," Black said. "There are students everywhere that bring down the curve. It's easy to target us."

But there are large numerical discrepancies between student-athletes and the whole undergraduate student body with regards to average SAT score, high-school grade point average and high-school class rank, according to the admissions office.

The Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics argues that nationally, universities should close that gap by raising their academic standards when

Student-athletes aren't always up to par when it comes to academics

Pending faculty approval, UNC annually admits up to 160 special-recommendation athletes, who make up part of the more than 800 student-athletes on campus.

General student body:
Admitted: 6,734
Average SAT Score: 1,333
Average Class Rank: 24
Average GPA: 4.438

Special-recommendation athletes:
Admitted: 153
Average SAT Score: 1,078
Average Class Rank: 124
Average GPA: 3.412

admitting student-athletes. UNC officials contend that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions employs fair practices when admitting students — even those in special categories such as athletes.

Steve Farmer, director of undergraduate admissions, said the Department of Athletics is allowed to recommend up to 140 potential student-athletes for admission each year — a number approved by the Faculty Council. The department decides how many spots will go to each team.

In 2006, athletic recruits accepted through these special recommendations averaged an SAT score of 1,078. Overall the 6,734 students admitted to

SEE ADMISSIONS, PAGE 5

Religious leaders defer in healing

Few mention Va. Tech during Sunday sermons

BY ALLISON NICHOLS
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

The Rev. Ruth Stevens, whose son graduated from Virginia Tech in 2004, was one of few ministers of Franklin Street churches to address in a sermon Sunday the deadliest shooting in U.S. history.

"The most vulnerable were not the 32 students who were shot," she said at University United Methodist Church, linking the week's events to Christian teachings. "The most vulnerable was the one who did the shooting."

Stevens said some of her parishioners have felt out of step with society at large because they feel empathy for Seung-Hui Cho, the Va. Tech senior who shot 32 others before killing himself, in addition to their compassion for his

victims. She and other area religious leaders said no one has come to them in the past week for help coping with the tragedy.

"I think the University really counsels itself," said Rabbi Ben Packer of the Jewish Experience Movement of the South, a UNC student organization.

"It's amazing how the University community has come together to deal with it communally, whether it's religious or in other ways," he said, adding that the Va. Tech shootings were a main topic of conversation at Shabbat meals on the Sabbath.

Packer said the reactions of students with whom he's spoken about the tragedy were neither uniquely religious nor uniquely Jewish. "Everybody's hurting from it," he said. "Everyone kind of feels the same pain."

The Rev. Bob Dunham of University Presbyterian Church said that for people within any faith tradition, there is an element of basic personal compassion for the pain of others, as well as a responsibility to intervene whenever possible.

He said the most important thing people can

do now is to listen to those most affected by the deaths at Va. Tech.

"It's too early to talk about forgiveness," he said.

Rabbi John Friedman of the Judea Reform Congregation in Durham said he's talked to his congregation about gun control laws and mental health care in America in the aftermath of Va. Tech.

"Part of the spiritual reaction that is normal in human beings is to look for ways to address the underlying causes or lack of prevention," he said. "It helps us spiritually to feel more secure."

Agape Campus Ministry did not address the shootings Sunday in its Christian service in the Student Union, nor have students approached the organization's ministers for help dealing with the week's events.

"The University as a community has done such a good job of coping together," Packer said by way of explanation. "It's really been very helpful with the candlelight vigil, with all the different Facebook groups."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.



The Aftermath

Students wear support on their sleeves

BY AMANDA YOUNGER
STAFF WRITER

Ardent UNC men's basketball fans stood aghast at a January defeat at the hands of Virginia Tech, cringing at the sight of any reminder of their Virginian foes.

But for one day, students traded their Tar Heel blue for Hokie maroon and orange.

"Today we're all Hokies," senior Liz Oden said while donning Va. Tech colors Friday as part of National Orange and Maroon Effect Day.

Organized by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association, the day was designed to honor the 32 victims

of the April 16 campus shooting and to provide a sense of community for those attempting to return to normalcy after the tragedy.

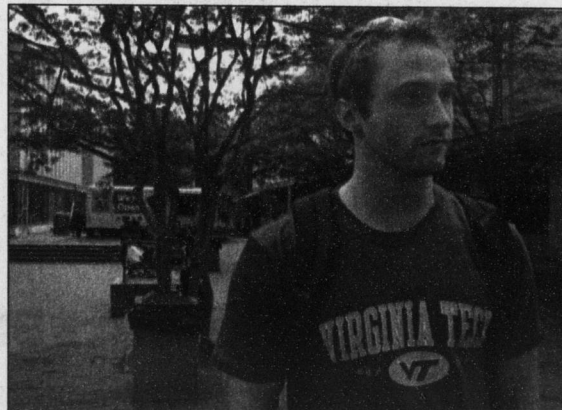
"It's one of the littlest things you can do," said Whitney Pilson, a sophomore communications major.

"I was really proud of our community for binding together."

Support will continue at noon today as students across the nation plan to commemorate the one-week anniversary of the tragedy with a moment of silence. Student Body President Eve Carson is encouraging UNC students to gather in the Pit for a moment of reflection.

Chicago maroon and burnt orange — Va. Tech's school colors for more than a century — have

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DTH/ALLIE MULLIN

Sophomore Joseph McCormick said that he wore orange and maroon on Friday to make sure that UNC is "vocal about what happened."

WHAT: A moment of silence for Va. Tech WHEN: Noon today WHERE: The Pit

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, the Thursday front-page story, "Universities' mull privacy," incorrectly attributed quotes to Michael Jorge. The quotes were spoken by David McCord, department head of psychology at Western Carolina University. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

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BANDING TOGETHER An initiative uses orange bands to spark discussion

SEEKING THEIR DUES A bill would give Lumbees national recognition as a tribe

IN YOUR BACKYARD A conference shows that sex trafficking is a local issue

city | page 6

RIGHTING WRONGS
A forum held at Carrboro Elementary School discusses the challenges faced by the local Burmese community and different ways to address them.

campus | page 7

CENTER OF THE SOUTH
The University's Center for the Study of the American South dedicates its new headquarters, a historic house on Franklin Street, in a ceremony Saturday.

this day in history

APRIL 23, 2001 ...
UNC officials recommend cutting more than 80 faculty positions as a way to meet the N.C. legislature's request to reduce the UNC-system's budget by about 7 percent.

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