

Carolina in Moeser's mind

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"This seemed to be a university whose agenda fits my ability," Moeser said.

Anne Cates, chairwoman of the Board of Trustees at the University of North Carolina, said the similarities between UNC and UNL made Moeser an attractive prospect.

"We have a very similar vision of education in the future," Cates said. "We're a research university, and we have the same number of students."

Even though his announcement took many by surprise, Moeser said, he was first contacted by the UNC search committee last fall.

The search process was conducted in confidence. Speculation on both campuses about Moeser even being a candidate didn't begin until late last week.

Moeser said he didn't leave because of the money but said the level of administrative and faculty salaries at Nebraska could be cause for concern.

"I think Nebraska is going to have to give attention to it," he said. "Nebraska needs to have a greater vision in shooting past the midpoint

(of its peer institutions in salaries)." Moeser also said the state needed to show more commitment to its flagship campus.

"There are serious concerns in terms of Nebraska's commitment to its university," he said. "I think the university and the people of Nebraska should be concerned about whether the collective will is there to support a first-class university."

He said the flagship campus has higher costs and more expensive needs.

NU President Dennis Smith said he wasn't concerned about the fate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"UNL is well-positioned to continue its momentum," Smith said.

Smith said a national search is necessary to get the best pool of candidates, as opposed to looking solely within the institution for Moeser's replacement.

Moeser agreed.

"I understand the argument for promoting and growing within," he said. "But I think it's a mistake for the university to think we never need

to reach outside our borders.

"That's a recipe for disaster."

After the eight-month search to replace UNC chancellor Michael Hooker, who died of cancer, the university is ready for Moeser to come on board, Cates said.

"It feels very good," she said. "We need somebody to take hold."

Moeser, who was appointed unanimously by the search committee and Board of Trustees, will find more than the sweet smells of tobacco and Carolina pines waiting for him when he arrives this summer.

According to an article written in the Chapel Hill News last July, UNC faces many vacant administrative posts just as UNL does.

Last July, the campus was dealing with a \$10 million deficit that threatened faculty and staff positions, as well as academic programs.

Its provost, who was in charge of the university after Hooker's death, suffered a heart attack in the last year, Cates said.

"We've been having a hard time, and we are very pleased (about Moeser's appointment)," she said.

Now that UNC's search is over, UNL's will soon begin.

Cates acknowledged that UNC snagging Moeser puts UNL in a tough spot.

But she remained unapologetic.

"I know people are upset up there - we would be, too," Cates said. "But James Moeser just fits the spot for us."

Students at UNC praise first moves

Lincoln students anticipate change

By Kimberly Sweet
Staff writer

Students from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will soon have a common link with students from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Both groups will have gone to class under the tenure of Chancellor James Moeser.

Students from both campuses seemed upbeat about the announcement Friday.

UNC students were excited about the prospects of a new chancellor, while UNL students said they are looking forward to a change in the administration.

"I met with the new chancellor," said Lerissa Rentas, vice president of the UNC student senate. "He seemed absolutely wonderful."

Rentas said she had lunch with Moeser after the UNC Board of Governors appointed him chancellor Friday. In her discussion with him, Rentas said she emphasized one thing:

"I told him, 'I really hope you value student opinion because we have a lot of it.'"

Brad Matthews, UNC student body president, said Moeser had already spent time with the campus and its students by attending UNC's first-ever campus service day.

"He's definitely started off on the right foot," Matthews said.

At UNL, some students were complimentary of Moeser's accomplishments.

"I think he's done a lot for the university as far as helping it grow," said Mark Spotanski, a junior marketing major.

But Spotanski said Moeser didn't interact with students enough.

"He wasn't as visible to students as students would like to see," he said.

Some students said they knew nothing about Moeser beyond his title.

"I don't really know the guy," said Josh Harms, a sophomore who is undecided about his major.

Junior marketing major Nick Hansen said he wasn't disappointed by the announcement that Moeser would be moving on.

"I think it's good - we need change," Hansen said.

Hansen said he wanted someone who would be more visible as chancellor.

"I told (Moeser), 'I really hope you value student opinion because we have a lot of it.'"

Lerissa Rentas

UNC student senate vice president

Ieva Augstums, a junior news-editorial and English major, said she felt Moeser hadn't accomplished the goals he promised during his administration.

Improving academic rigor and giving the University of Nebraska-Lincoln a more prestigious reputation are unfinished tasks Moeser is leaving behind, she said.

"I don't think we're up to the place he thinks we should be," Augstums said. "I don't think he's done enough for us to go."

Nic Heinke, the former student body president at UNC, was on the search committee that picked Moeser for the chancellor position.

Heinke said Moeser's familiarity with the operation of a public university made him the prime candidate.

"He really understands what a public university is about and really embraces the mission of a public school," he said.

Moeser's zeal for fund raising was also an important quality because the university will soon begin an extensive capital campaign.

Matthews agreed Moeser's experience would be an asset to UNC.

He said Moeser said he aspired to make the university the top public school.

"It's good to see a clear vision of where the university should be going," Matthews said.

Students at UNC also want to see a chancellor that takes an interest in student life and is visible, Heinke said.

Now that Moeser will be leaving, students at UNL will be looking for some of the same qualities in their new chancellor, Spotanski said.

"We need someone who is more student-oriented, not just focused on the faculty," he said.

"Students have strong issues, as well."

RHA establishes award in honor of ex-president

By Jackie Blair
Staff writer

The Residence Hall Association on Sunday decided to establish an award that will be named after Jadd Stevens, the former RHA president.

The award, which is for the outstanding executive board member of the year, will be awarded starting next year at the annual banquet.

Tiffany Quinze, RHA's vice president, said Stevens had been an active member of RHA for five years and deserved recognition.

"I hope that he'll be surprised," Quinze said.

In other business:

Andrew Moeller, a sophomore computer engineering major, will take over the duties of RHA speaker.

He will be responsible for typing the bylaws that will be presented to the council and having an understanding of

the RHA constitution.

Kate Grafel, a junior news-editorial major, said Battle of the Bands at Abel Residence Hall on Wednesday was successful.

"Now I know what kind of activities brings people in," Grafel said. "We had that snack bar packed Wednesday night."

Ass-Backwards was the winner of the battle, with Straight Out of Junior High winning the crowd-response award.

Tonight at Love Memorial Hall there will be a free chili feed beginning at about 6:30.

Neihardt Residence Center will have a beach party Thursday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Lounge. Meals consisting of hot dogs and hamburgers will be \$1.

Anyone interested in being a campus escort for next year can contact Marissa Carstens at (402) 436-9481.

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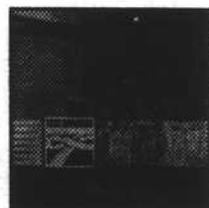
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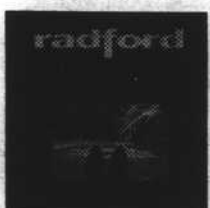
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