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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Maurer School of Law
Bloomington

Former IU professor chosen as law school's new dean

By Brian McCoy
Daily Student Staff Writer

5/5/85
IOS

Morris Sheppard Arnold, a law and history professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, was appointed dean of the IU Law School Friday by the IU Board of Trustees. The appointment becomes effective June 1.

Arnold, who taught law at IU-Bloomington between 1971 and 1977, succeeds Maurice Holland Jr., who has been the acting law dean since the resignation last August of Dean Sheldon J. Plager. Plager left the post he had held since 1977 to devote more time to teaching and research.

IU-Bloomington vice-president Kenneth Gros Louis said he was "very pleased" with the appointment and noted Arnold's experience in both public and private

law schools.

Arnold's experience had much to do with his appointment, according to William Popkin, IU law professor and head of the search committee. The committee considered nearly 20 "serious candidates" before selecting Arnold as the candidate to suggest to the trustees.

"He's a terrific teacher and a terrific scholar," Popkin said, adding that Arnold's private university experience should enable the law school to tap funding sources normally closed to public institutions like IU.

"He's also had experience as an administrator," Popkin said, adding, "I'm ecstatic; he's everything you could want in a dean."

"This guy turned down the deanship at Northwestern to take this job," Greg Watson, third-year law student, said. He ex-

pects the biggest change under the new dean will be an "influx of full-time faculty" which should "widen the curriculum available to us."

Arnold, 43, is an authority on property and history of law and has written a number of books and articles. He also edited "Studies in Legal History," published by the University of North Carolina.

After receiving a classical diploma from Phillips Exeter Academy, Arnold attended Yale University, the University of Arkansas, the University of London's Institute for Historical Research and Harvard Law School.

Arnold has also held teaching and administrative posts, including vice president of the University of Pennsylvania and associate dean of the University of Pennsylvania Law School.