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Forrest Bowman III  
*Indiana Daily Student*

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
Maurer School of Law  
Bloomington

# Law dean says fund raising crucial

September 7, 1987 IDS

By Forrest Bowman III

Indiana Daily Student

Bryant G. Garth, dean of the IU-Bloomington School of Law hates not teaching. But Garth is too busy fund raising and writing to teach this semester.

Garth, 38, who is beginning his first full year as dean of the law school, said fund raising is crucial for the future of the law school.

"To go to the next step in our own development, we have to be involved in major fund raising in a way that we haven't been before," he said.

In recent months, Garth has traveled to Chicago, Washington, D.C., Indianapolis and other cities to meet with alumni and emphasize their importance to help maintain and upgrade the quality of the law school.

The school is trying very, very hard to raise more private money, most of which will go to financial aid, he said.

Financial contributions from alumni and other private sources also will help attract and retain high-caliber faculty members.

"I think the strength of the law school — in terms of moving toward the future — is in the faculty," he said. "Once people obtain a market value, you have to find ways of keeping them here, interested in continuing to teach at Indiana University.

"It's a real challenge to make sure we keep the kind of environment that will make them want to stay,"

Garth said.

He explained that continuing legal research also is vital for the school's future. "The research is important in its own right, but also important in terms of building the school's reputation," he said.

In terms of his own research, Garth has been writing an article on class action litigation for a continuing National Science Foundation study.

He also has devoted time toward completing an essay review of U.S. Circuit Judge Richard Posner's book called the "The Federal Courts."

Garth became dean of the law school in April, after serving as acting dean. During his tenure, Garth said the law school will continue to recruit faculty because "we need to fill in the splendid building that we have."

Applications to the school were up about 16 percent last year, Garth said, adding, "We are trying to continue to compete strongly in the admissions area." But the number of students admitted has not increased.

IU President Thomas Ehrlich will be a positive influence on the law school's reputation, he said.

"He provides a very experienced and knowledgeable source of advice about problems that arise at law schools," Garth explained.

Garth said his duty "is to set a tone, be open to new ideas and try to promote an environment that brings out the best in the faculty and the students."