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Chief Justice Nominee Outlines Legal Trends

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Indiana Daily Student

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Chief justice nominee outlines legal trends

By Brigette Panarisi

Indiana Daily Student

IU officials and honored guests, dressed in ceremonial attire, gathered at the IU Auditorium Friday afternoon for what turned out to be a less than solemn dedication of the \$12 million IU-Bloomington School of Law addition and renovation.

U.S. Supreme Court chief justice nominee William Rehnquist delivered to about 2,500 people a dedicatory speech that was marred by interruptions from about 40 protesters inside the Auditorium.

Rehnquist was invited to speak at the dedication more than a year ago by Craig Bradley, professor of law and a former law clerk for Rehnquist.

At one point during Rehnquist's speech, "The Legal Profession Today," IU President John Ryan stood and asked demonstrators to leave if they weren't interested in hearing what the justice had to say.

During his speech, Rehnquist cited as trends in the law profession a dramatic increase in the number of practicing attorneys in the United States and an increased emphasis on profit maximization.

The chief justice nominee said the number of lawyers has more than doubled since 1970, with nearly 700,000 practicing attorneys today, and their median income is about \$65,000. But, he said, today's lawyers work much harder than those of 25 years ago.

Rehnquist also said lawyers need to study how their services are delivered.

"One wonders whether some of the emphasis of law school study and research might not profitably be shifted to the broad area of how legal services are delivered," Rehnquist said, "and surely the structure of the practice of law is a vital element in the delivery of those legal services."

The focus of the day's events — the dedication of the law school addition — was highlighted when Robert Welz, director of the architectural firm consulted by IU for the renovation, presented the cere-

monial key to the law building to Richard Stoner, president of the IU Board of Trustees.

Stoner thanked Welz "for (the) splendid design that greatly enhances the University's ability to carry out its mission of teaching, research and public service."

Indiana Gov. Robert Orr also praised the building.

"This structure . . . will carry forth into the future and will be instrumental in bringing many good things to our state . . . and in making sure that the people of this state are served by the practice of law," Orr said.

Referring to the history of the founding of Indiana, Ryan talked of the need for law to create civilization out of the wilderness and the continuing need for law today.

"The facilities of the School of Law that we dedicate today are designed for a new age in legal education and for the vital role of law in our society," Ryan said. "They bring to a new generation of students new instructional technology and a library that is now suited to serve these students and the law faculty."

IU-Bloomington Vice President Kenneth Gros-Louis recalled the cramped and constraining confinements of the law school before the renovation. He said although education is disheartening at times, faculty and students remain committed to education and IU.

Responding to the acceptance of the building were Bryant Garth, acting dean of the law school; S. Jay Plager, professor of law; James Bourne, president of the School of Law Alumni Association; and David Reidy, law student.

Garth spoke about the advantages of the law school's new building and added that the law building is unique because its original structure remains.

"Our challenge . . . (is) symbolized by the build-

Law school addition dedication brings interruptions, ovations

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ing...to add to and renovate the legal tradition, building on its strengths and trying to overcome its weaknesses," Garth said.

Bourne discussed the increasing quality of the school.

"As the quality of the school and its graduates continues to grow, so will our school's reputation for excellence increase in proportion," Bourne said.

Reidy discussed the mechanistic view of life and politics in general.

"There have been some unpleasant aspects to picturing the world as a machine. . . . That views focus on manipulation, control and predictability has contributed greatly to our obsession with dominance, whether it be of nature, of women or of foreign nations," he said.

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David Reidy
Law student

Reidy cited U.S. policy toward South Africa as one problem that needs to be recognized as part of a larger world. Members of the audience expressed their agreement with Reidy by following his speech with a standing ovation.