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Bryant Garth (1986-1987 Acting; 1987-1990)

Law School Deans

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New Help Wanted Signs

Scott Anderson

Indiana Daily Student

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Maurer School of Law
Bloomington

New help wanted signs

Law school to begin search

HELP WANTED:

Qualified candidates for position of law school dean of a major midwestern university. Must have talent for and deep interest in teaching and research, but be willing to sacrifice both. Serious inquiries only. Send resume to

Finding good administrators is harder than you might think. Just ask the law faculty at Washington University, in St. Louis. They are about to begin the third year of their search for a new law school dean.

Unfortunately, their problems are not uncommon. According to the *National Law Journal*, at least 35 of the 175 accredited law schools in the United States are currently looking for a new dean.

IU is on that list for the second time in as many years. Furthermore, the present acting dean, Maurice Holland, leaves in July to become dean of the the University of Oregon law school. Two weeks ago, it was announced that Bryant G. Garth will serve as acting dean until a permanent replacement is found.

Garth says he has no desire to become a full-time dean. He cites the drain on his teaching and research as primary disincentives to assuming the role of an administrator on a permanent

basis. His attitude toward his new job is both commendable and revealing.

Teaching and research are the lifeblood of all good universities. Faculty who are truly dedicated to both are rarer than they ought to be. Even stating for the record one's commitment to teaching is unusual enough to merit praise. Ideally, faculty members who have proven to be the most dedicated to the mission of teaching and research should be the ones who administrate the programs which serve them.

However, they are also likely to turn down the administrative jobs to pursue the activities that qualify them to be administrators. Garth phrases it bluntly, "Life without teaching would be unstimulating and boring." Even though he would still be able to teach one class per semester, the loss in teaching and research is too much to sacrifice.

IU has been blessed with more than its share of excellent administrators, who deserve the thanks of the students and faculty for their often thankless efforts. We wish Garth the best of luck as he assumes his new job in July, and hope that his commitment to teaching and research is rewarded as much when he serves as acting dean as when he serves as a member of the faculty.

Scott Anderson
for the Opinion Board