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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Maurer School of Law
Bloomington

Trustees name Garth new law school dean

By Gina Binole
Indiana Daily Student

INDIANAPOLIS — The IU Board of Trustees officially named Bryant Garth, 37, dean of the IU-Bloomington School of Law at their monthly meeting Saturday, ending a three-year search for a permanent law dean.

Garth, who has been acting dean of the school since August 1986, was chosen by a 13-member search and screen committee.

IU-Bloomington Vice President Kenneth Gros Louis said at the meeting that Garth has been the recipient of a number of awards and honors during his career.

"He has received enthusiastic recommendations from the law faculty and the search committee," Gros Louis said.

"I can say that during his six months as dean he has proven to be a very able administrator and an excellent fund-raiser, which are two important parts of being a dean," said Arthur Lotz, assistant dean for budgetary administration and bar relations. "I am very pleased with the appointment, and I think most of — well all of — the faculty enthusiastically support him."

Lotz said some of Garth's col-

leagues have expressed some concern about Garth's age, and that accepting the position would be premature. But Garth's age did not seem to bother Lotz.

"I don't think age has anything to do with it," he said. "I believe Mozart was dead at 37, if that tells you anything."

Garth said earlier in the semester that he had reservations about accepting the job because he enjoys teaching and conducting research.

"I guess what finally happened was that my time just came, whether I wanted it to or not," Garth said Sunday.

Garth said his plans for the law school will be to continue to build on the some of the school's already established projects, such as the Law and Society Center he hopes to implement next year. This center will bring together a small group of faculty from different departments on campus.

The center will involve coordinating and researching in law areas and developing research initiatives in different parts of the campus, he said.

This program, in part, originates from Garth's belief in a strong liberal arts education.

"In order to have a good grasp

of what's going on, a liberal arts degree is very important," he said. "It helps very much (in law) to put things in social, political and economical context. Knowledge of English literature helps a great deal when reading a text that needs to be examined and interpreted.

"Practicing law can be boring if you don't have the ability to put what you're doing into perspective. A liberal arts degree helps with that," he said.

While at Stanford University in the mid-70s, Garth studied law under incoming IU president Thomas Ehrlich, who was then law dean there.

In other business the trustees formally approved:

- A title change for IU President John Ryan to IU President Emeritus, effective Aug. 1, when incoming president Thomas Ehrlich assumes office. Ryan then will take a leave of absence with a salary of \$125,000, his present salary, until June 30, 1988.

- A lease agreement for the tennis pavilion on the Bloomington campus with the Monroe County Bank from March 15 to August 14 at a rental of \$5,000 per month. Four successive renewal options also are provided.