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Plan Changes In Law School

By JEAN NANCE
H-T Reporter

10/67

Look for some dramatic innovations in the Indiana University School of Law a couple years from now, Law School Dean William B. Harvey said Thursday.

Dean Harvey told news media people at an informal luncheon at IU that the law school is currently undergoing deep study and assessment and faculty build-up, all of which should lead to "some vital, dynamic— I hope imaginative — innovations," after a year or more of study and planning.

Some type of clinical program for upperclass law students and more space for the school are definitely on the minds of the law school administrators, as well as curriculum changes.

The law school enrollment— 557 this year—has doubled in the past five years, Dean Harvey said, surpassing the law building's planned capacity when it was built 10 years ago.

But the greatest problems are the Law School Library, which Dean Harvey said will be "jammed with books stacked in the aisles" within five years, and the lack of office space.

The law school has already had to rent a house at 4th and Dunn streets for offices and a class.

The Monroe County courts and the law school are currently working on joint arrangements by which law students could, under supervision, provide legal aid for low-income persons.

"We are certainly not insensitive to the public service aspects of the university," Dean Harvey commented, "but everything we do must be based not just on a social need but must be educational in purpose."

Thus the school must be certain that any new programs provide valid training and experience for its students, not just a service.

A shortage of faculty is a stumbling block to clinic set-ups also, he said, as clinical work must have adequate faculty supervision.

Critical re-evaluation of the academic program is needed, he said, because demands for legal services have grown tremendously, and particularly the demand for international perspective.

Some years ago only the seaboard law firms needed to deal with the legal systems of other countries, he said, but now com-

panies in all size communities throughout the country have direct involvement in other countries—plants and subsidiaries as well as marketing operations—and need lawyers with international orientation.

Asked if there is a shortage of lawyers in Indiana, Dean Harvey said the question is more of quality than quantity—"We're over-supplied with bad lawyers and undersupplied with good ones," he said with a smile—and there's always the problem of distribution.