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## Strengthening Law School Is One Goal of New Dean

The immediate goal of Sheldon J. Plager, who has been named dean of the Indiana University Law School, Bloomington, is to "continue the strong tradition of quality teaching, service and research that has characterized the law school."

Plager, whose appointment was announced recently by IU President John W. Ryan, will begin his new duties July 1. He is now professor of law, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Looking ahead he sees a goal of "strengthening IU Bloomington law school's ability to compete with the best of the law schools in the Big Ten and in the country."

Plager, whose special area of research and teaching is environmental law, property law, and land use planning law, does not see his job as an easy one. He talked about the challenges of his new role in a telephone interview:

"The biggest challenge in this time of continued enrollment pressures and constrained university resources is to recruit and retain a first quality faculty, dedicated to contributing to the strengthening of our legal system, particularly through creative research and service, and education."

Plager believes the law school should provide a strong foundation in legal theory and should benefit from close relationships with other colleges and units on the campus. At the same time, he said, it should provide students with skills and practical knowledge needed for them to be effective members of the legal profession.

Plager succeeds Douglass G. Boshkoff, who resigned as dean at the Bloomington Law School in January of 1976. Plager is the author of two



Law Dean Sheldon J. Plager

books and numerous articles which deal with his particular areas of expertise.

Plager received the A.B. degree from the University of North Carolina; the J.D. degree (with high honors) from the University of Florida; and the LL.M. from Columbia University. His honors include membership in Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi and Order of the Coif. He was a Charles Evans Hughes Fellow at Columbia University. At the University of Florida he was editor-in-chief of the Law Review.