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Star I.U.-Bloomington Bureau

Bloomington Ind. — Sheldon J. Plager, 45, professor of law and a specialist in environmental law at the University of Illinois, has been recommended by Indiana University President John W. Ryan to become dean of the I.U. School of Law at Bloomington.

His appointment, effective July 1, is expected to be confirmed by the I.U. Board of Trustees in a meeting Feb. 4 on the Fort Wayne campus of I.U.

Plager would succeed Douglass G. Boshoff, who announced last year his plan to resign.

Plager joined the Illinois faculty in 1963 as a visiting associate professor of law and climbed quickly through the academic ranks to full professor within two years.

He also has been on the law faculties at the universities of Wisconsin and Florida. He was graduated from Columbia University and the universities of Florida and North Carolina.

I.U. Vice-President Robert M. O'Neil praised Plager’s past work as a consultant to environmentalist groups and as the chairman of the faculty senate at Illinois during a critical period two years ago when the state legislature’s reduction of appropriations to the university and other financial problems caused the dismissal of many instructors.

Plager was on active duty with the United States Navy in 1952-55 and is a commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve.