

## Lack of lawyers not the same as demand

Indiana Tech President Arthur Snyder is correct in his Aug. 26 letter that projections "are, at best, imprecise and inexact."

However, his conclusion regarding a bright future for the graduates of a new law school is mistakenly based on isolated statistics and a misunderstanding of the economics of the legal profession.

It appears that his underlying argument is based on Indiana lacking in lawyers per capita and the expected GDP growth of Indiana. Attorneys congregate in areas of political and economic activity. Having a shortage in per capita terms does not necessarily mean that a demand exists.

Furthermore, coupling this argument with an anticipated GDP growth rate in Indiana is tenuous, at best. Snyder seems to have ignored the fact that many experienced attorneys were laid off from Indiana firms and will be in a much better position to serve sectors contributing to this GDP growth than new graduates who need training.

The problem with statistics is that there exists a temptation to isolate some variables at the expense of reality to advocate the author's perspective. Law schools are known to be cash cows for their universities, and I sincerely hope that Indiana Tech's feasibility study doesn't pursue this ulterior motive at the expense of students' financial futures. I would strongly encourage all prospective law students, especially those considering new unaccredited schools, to consider the following legal term before enrolling – caveat emptor.

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