1975

Spong Only Nominee for W&M Law Post

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By Wilford Kale

Portsmouth State Staff

WILLIAMSBURG - Former U.S. Sen. William S. Spong Jr., who recently resigned from the Senate, is the only person being considered by the College of William and Mary Board of Visitors as a candidate for the dean of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, the Times-Dispatch learned Monday.

If the Portsmouth lawyer and William and Mary President Dr. Thomas A. Graves Jr. are able to reach agreements on his administrative operation in the post, it is expected that the board will officially name Spong dean at its Nov. 21-22 meeting here.

The William and Mary Board of Visitors held a special meeting Monday morning in the Richmond law office of its rector, R. Harvey Chappell Jr., initially to consider a request by the law school search committee that the committee be allowed to bring to board only one name — that of Spong — for consideration.

Contacted Monday, Chappell said he would have no comment on the prospective appointment.

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A life-long Democrat, Spong was counsel to Governor Edmund S. Moore, served in the U.S. Senate in 1964, but was defeated in the 1966 campaign. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia law school and marriedorraine law at the University of Edinburgh and Cambridge University.

Spong served in the state house from 1964, earlier he served a term in the House of Delegates.

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Continued From First Page which you had a review of the method of his treatment. "Spong could not be contacted for comment."

"Governor said in Williamsburg today that the state of the new law under way "will be in the hands of the search committee" and he would not do the governor's "final action on the matter."

Author: Mary Liewald faculty members were suggesting Spong for the law school dean post, saying the law school needed a man with foreign and legal experience, who had returned to Virginia. A former member of the law school faculty, he had returned from overseas to serve as law school dean. That was only practical, said Prof. James P. Whyte Jr. "He has had to negotiate an offer and prepare to return to the law school."

The faculty continued its search for a law school dean, with an open-minded approach to candidates. Prof. William Fischer was acting law school dean.

From the outset of the search, law school faculty members have been considering an open-ended search for a dean. They are anxious to have a dean who can lead the law school into the future. A former member of the law school faculty, he had returned from overseas to serve as law school dean. That was only practical, said Prof. James P. Whyte Jr. "He has had to negotiate an offer and prepare to return to the law school."

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