

# Hood & the U.H.

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Despite continuing denials that politics and policy disputes with the regents are involved, the departure of David Hood, first dean of the University of Hawaii Law School, remains disturbing.

Hood's acceptance this week of a new job, director of the Carnegie Corporation's Commonwealth Program, was not unexpected. It's an interesting and prestigious opportunity for a talented person.

The writing went on the wall in June when Hood announced his resignation as dean, effective next June 1, after the law school's first graduation.

**AT THE TIME**, Hood said he was quitting because he had "completed the task of institution-building" begun in early 1973 when he came here to launch the law school.

But that reason is just plain hard to accept. For one thing, while Hood is credited with doing an excellent organizational job, the institution is far from "built" in the sense of programs, earned prestige, and especially physical facilities.

In fact, the big immediate problem, which is not Hood's fault, is the strong criticism of the law school facilities recently by an American Bar Association accreditation team.

The ABA team set a September 1, 1976 deadline for improvements in present facilities, located in temporary buildings in the quarry area of the Manoa campus, and said the school must have a new building by 1980. If not, accreditation would be in jeopardy.

**WHATEVER** the reason for Hood's quitting, regents and top administrators of the University must face the fact many people on and off campus feel it relates to local-vs.-Mainlander factionalism and unwarranted meddling in academic affairs.

Moreover, there are those who apply those comments to other events around the University system. Fair or unfair, that does not help the University's stature in the nation, not to mention campus morale.

On the law school, then, there is the double challenge of improving facilities and finding a new dean of Hood's talent, stature and promise.

On the broader issue, those who run the University, the on-campus and outside power structure, must at least consider the idea that having good intentions is not the same as being right.