

# ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

June 24, 1994

Mr. Sidney Ganis  
Chairman, Board Realignment Committee  
Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

Re: Visual Effects Branch status.

Dear Sid,

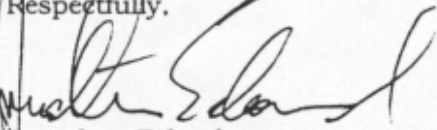
Following the recent meetings of the Board Realignment Committee and the Board of Governors, the Visual Effects Committee met last evening to review the situation, and I am pleased to be able to report the results of that review.

The principal action taken at the Visual Effects Committee meeting was the passing of a motion, by a unanimous vote, committing the committee (and consequently myself) to seeking to attain full Branch status in its own name. Alternatives to this position were thoroughly discussed, particularly your proposal to provide for a Members-at-Large Branch with Board representation divided among several constituencies. The Visual Effects Committee found considerable difficulty with this proposal, sensing that it would engender problems not only for the Visual Effects group, but for other constituencies within a branch containing such a large dominant faction. The Visual Effects Committee position in no way denies the merit of the proposition that Members-at-Large should achieve representation at the Board.

In accordance with the motion adopted by the Visual Effects Committee, we will respond to the request of the Realignment Committee and prepare a brief for presentation to the Committee and possible subsequent presentation to the Board. In the preparation of this brief, members of the Visual Effects team responsible will be contacting members of all the existing branches of the Academy for their views and input. It was suggested at the Visual Effects meeting that Board members may begin to receive calls from their constituents regarding this activity and that it would be appropriate for the Realignment Committee to apprise the Board that this endeavor is underway and that they may expect such enquiries.

The Visual Effects Committee is enthusiastic about this opportunity to present what it looks upon as a testament to the very significant role of visual effects in the art and science of motion pictures. The committee feels that the brief it presents will serve a useful purpose, whatever the outcome, not only for the present deliberations but also as an addition to the body of knowledge entrusted to the archives of the Academy's Motion Picture Study Center. Moreover, the brief may serve as an example for any future aspirants to branch status, detailing the very substantial depth and breadth of argument required for consideration of such a case by the Board.

Respectfully,



Jonathan Erland  
Chairman, Visual Effects Committee  
Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

c.c. Arthur Hiller, Bruce Davis.