

AIME

ASSOCIATION for INFORMATION MEDIA and EQUIPMENT

P.O. Box 1173 • 56 John St., Clarksdale, Mississippi 38614 Phone: 601-624-9355 Fax: 601-624-9366

August 29, 1996

Ivan Bender
Lisa Livingston
Co-Chairs, Educational Multimedia
Fair Use Guideline Development Committee
c/o City College/City University of NY
5/220 North Academic Center
138th Street at Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031

Dear Mr. Bender and Ms. Livingston:

Representatives of the Association for Information Media and Equipment (AIME) have, over the past eighteen months, met with you and other associations representing educators and copyright owners for the purpose of creating fair use guidelines for educational multimedia. These guidelines are designed to be used by educators and students when they create their own multimedia projects. Since many educators are associate members of AIME, the corporate members of AIME would like to continue working together to clarify the copyright laws that relate to video and other electronic media, and to provide assistance to educators and librarians as copyright questions or problems come up.

The creation of fair use guidelines involves the development of a series of compromises inasmuch as fair use does not have a precise definition in the copyright law or in the courts themselves. We feel these guidelines are a positive development in that they provide a sense of direction in an area of technology that is just now developing, yet has already become such an important part of the teaching and learning process. It is clear to us that without these guidelines educators and students who develop multimedia projects are inhibited in their efforts and copyright proprietors are similarly negatively impacted.

We appreciate having the opportunity to be part of the negotiating committee and are please to be able to add our association's name to the list of other organizations that formally approve of the fair use guidelines for educational multimedia with the understanding that you will be seeking Congressional approval of them and not recommending any amendment to the law itself.

Sincerely,



Betty Denman Gorsegner
Executive Director