

Raymond E. Fielding

SMPTE Life Fellow, Raymond E. Fielding, dean emeritus of the Florida State University (FSU) College of Motion Picture Arts, Tallahassee, FL, passed away on Sunday, 30 December 2018. He was 87 years old.

Fielding's career in film education spanned 45 years at five different universities, including serving as a member of the founding faculties at three different major schools of film/communication. In 1990, he was appointed as the first permanent dean of the FSU Film School. He served in that position for 13 years until his retirement in 2003, when he was appointed dean emeritus. During his leadership at the FSU Film School, he became a national leader in film education and an acclaimed incubator for upcoming professionals in the film and entertainment industries.

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Fielding's professional career in the film/entertainment industries covered more than six decades and included service as a trustee of the American Film Institute (1973–1979) and a lifetime member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences since 1981. He was the author of five books, numerous journals, and encyclopedia articles. In 1973, his book, *The American Newsreel 1911–1967*, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Letters. Another book, *The Techniques of Special Effects Cinematography*, has been the acknowledged industry standard in visual special effects for more than 40 years. His national reputation as an American newsreel scholar and expert on early visual special effects made him a frequent presenter at industry conferences throughout his career and retirement.

In addition, for the past 35 years, Fielding served as a consultant and expert witness on film technology, copyright, patent, and archival services for numerous film and television organizations, including

Universal Studios, RKO General, CBS, ABC Television, British Broadcasting Corp., Hearst Corp., Canadian Broadcasting Corp., and The Smithsonian Institution.

Fielding was born on 3 January 1931 in Brockton, MA. He was the only child of Walter and Irma Nelson Fielding. He grew up in Long Beach, CA. In 1946, he and his family moved to Tokyo, Japan, where his father, an Air Force civilian employee, was stationed during the post-war occupation of Japan. He attended and graduated from The American School, Tokyo, before returning to the United States to attend the University of California at Los Angeles, where he received the BA and MA degrees. He received a PhD degree from the University of Southern California in 1961.

Fielding was preceded in death by his wife Carole and his parents.

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