

Sandra Walker is the Dean for Health Sciences and the Nursing Programs Administrator at Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) and is member of the Board of Directors for the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (OADN). Dr. Walker started her nursing practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse and utilized this portal into the nursing pathway to develop her career through her associate degree, baccalaureate degree, and master's degree in nursing. She also holds an executive juris doctor degree as well as post-graduate certificates in legal nurse consulting and nursing education, and was a Johnson & Johnson Nurse Executive Fellow. After 30 years in the acute patient care setting, working in positions from the front lines to senior executive roles, Dr. Walker began her academic career as a clinical adjunct then became a full-time nursing faculty member at COTC. She later became the Nursing Program Director and currently serves as the Dean responsible for nursing and allied health programs.

Dr. Walker has been a staunch advocate for safe patient care, the nursing profession and nursing education. She is actively involved in advocacy for associate degree nursing at the local, state and national levels. Her professional activities include: past chapter coordinator and state Chair for the Association for Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN); past chair for the Chief Nursing Officer Council for the Voluntary Hospital Association (VHA) of America; past vice chair and chair for the Ohio Council of Associate Degree Nursing Education Administrators (OCADNEA); past member of the Board of Directors for the Ohio League for Nursing; and past interim chair for the Ohio Chapter for the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing. She is currently a member of the Ohio Action Coalition Steering Committee for the IOM/Future of Nursing; past member of the Education Advisory Group to the Ohio Board of Nursing; and an associate member of the Ohio State Bar Association. In addition to OADN, she is a member in several professional organizations including OCADNEA and the National League for Nursing. Dr. Walker also writes on legal issues in nursing education for the journal Teaching and Learning in Nursing.

Dr. Walker has served on several advisory councils/boards in the Ohio region and currently serves on the Advisory Board to the Career & Technology Center of Licking County, the Advisory Board to Mideast Career & Technology Center, and the Muskingum County Children's Services Board of Directors. She has presented posters and education sessions at the local, state and national levels on nursing and nursing education topics. Dr. Walker completed her Associate of Applied Science and Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Ohio University; her Master's degree at Wright State University; and her Executive Juris Doctor at Concord Law School.