Professor Joseph T. Polanski initiated his relationship with Sinclair Community College in 1971, as Chairperson of the Criminal Justice Department. In this capacity, he developed and nurtured the Law Enforcement Program, which under his leadership, has become one of the best, if not the best, in the state of Ohio.

During his nineteen year tenure with Sinclair Community College and until his retirement in 1990, Professor Polanski was recognized and respected for his many contributions and for his high level of dedication and effectiveness as a chairperson and faculty member.

His accomplishments and his positive impact on law enforcement and law enforcement education in the Dayton area are considered to be truly outstanding. Since 1971 there have been over 800 graduates of Sinclair's Law Enforcement Program with a job placement rate of approximately 90%. All eighteen Dayton area law enforcement agencies sponsor their police officers to obtain training at Sinclair.

Professor Polanski evidenced a long history of cooperation with the city of Dayton Police Department through the Cadet Program and many other cooperative efforts resulting in seminars, workshops, and conferences directed toward updating and improving the local law enforcement process.

He was highly respected by the professional law enforcement community and was actively involved in various related organizations including the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the Ohio Council of Higher Education in Criminal Justice. He was recognized by the state of Ohio in 1987 as an "Outstanding Educator of the Year".

Professor Polanski was a dedicated teacher and faculty member and according to his colleagues, "Students always came first on his agenda."

On the basis of his many contributions to the quality, the growth and the excellence of Sinclair Community College, Professor Polanski has firmly established himself as a worthy candidate for receipt of emeritus honors.