Clarence Walls came to Sinclair in 1975 as the second member of the Music faculty. In 1976 he became Music Department chairperson and led the department to a position of local and regional prominence over the next ten years. In 1986, he became Dean of the Fine and Performing Arts Division, a position he held until his retirement in 2002.

Like many department chairs at Sinclair in the 1970s, Dr. Walls by necessity had to concern himself with creating a relevant curriculum, staffing it intelligently, and building a program from the ground up.

Intrinsic to his plans for the Music Department was the establishment of instrumental ensembles. Clarence started two community groups in the late 1970s, the Community Concert Band and the Community Wind Ensemble, and both continue to thrive today. The Wind Ensemble (now called Wind Symphony), in particular, developed under his leadership into a first-rate, nationally-recognized ensemble.

Students who were lucky enough to have Dr. Walls as a professor always remembered his classes as being very positive experiences. Part of the reason for his success in the classroom had to do with the concern he had for every single student. Dr. Walls went the extra mile by having quarterly meetings, in his office, with every student in every class in order to see how they were doing and to offer to them any kind of academic assistance that he could.

Dr. Walls was a well-known arts advocate and educator in the Dayton area, and he was one of the community leaders selected to help develop a Cultural Arts Action Plan for the greater Dayton area in 1991. Additionally, Dr. Walls served on the following boards and committees: Dayton Foundation Allegro Fund Advisory Committee, Dayton Philharmonic Board of Trustees, Muse Machine Board of Trustees, Culture Works Board of Trustees, Ohio Board of Regents Secondary and Higher Education Articulation Committee, Ohio Board of Regents Student Achievement in Research and Scholarship (STARS) Committee, and Victoria Theatre Jubilee Community Advisory Council.

The thoroughness with which Dr. Walls approached every task, the rapport he built with everyone he met, and perhaps most of all, the integrity with which he conducted all his
affairs had won him the respect and admiration of the Sinclair family and the community as well. These qualities served him well in his career as the Fine and Performing Arts Division Dean.

Clearly Dr. Clarence Walls, during his tenure as a faculty member at Sinclair, has demonstrated the worthiness of his nomination for Professor Emeritus.