



**Debra N. Thompson, PhD, RN, NEA-BC
NURS '77, '81, '10
Officer School, College, Regional Campus Committee Chair 2016-2018**

Biosketch

Debra N. Thompson, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, owner and principal of Debra N. Thompson, LLC holds an Adjunct Faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor, at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing. Debra has expertise in leadership development, patient safety, and quality improvement. She has extensive experience in using industrial models in health care to improve safety, quality, and care outcomes. Debra served as the Chief Nursing Officer of the Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative, where she led the Nurse Navigators Project co-funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Jewish Healthcare Foundation. Prior to joining the Initiative, she was Director, Corporate Nursing, Special Projects, UPMC Health System where she worked extensively with work redesign in a variety of settings using Toyota Production Systems. Debra's work has been featured in the Shingo Prize winning book *The Pittsburgh Way* by Naida Grunden. Currently, she works with a variety of healthcare organizations nationally and internationally to apply these principles.

Debra is a holder of a certificate in the Fundamentals of Magnet Course that enables her to define how the Magnet® model supports the delivery of safe, effective patient care, while fostering an environment that promotes and advances the practice of professional nursing. Debra is able to assist organizations apply the tools and principles to facilitate credentialing as a Magnet organization.

Debra has held a variety of administrative roles in both academic medical centers and community hospitals. She has coauthored multiple articles on organizational transformation, work redesign, and patient safety as well as presenting internationally and nationally. She is a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives and serves as a member of the Foundation Education Committee. She served on the Patient Safety and Quality Committee. Debra is Past President, Eta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International and currently serves as its Treasurer and Chair of the Research and Clinical Projects Committee. Her research interests are patient safety, the role of front-line leaders and the use of industrial models in healthcare.

She has served on the Pitt Alumni Board in various roles since 2013 including SCR Director for the School of Nursing and Chair of the Advocacy Committee.