Admiral Patrick Walsh, United States Navy, (Ret.) is a Senior Fellow in National Security and Defense at the John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Additionally, he joined Academic Partnerships, LLC, in June, 2012 as the President of Strategic Programs where he has worked with servicemen and women who want to advance their higher education goals from public universities, with online degree programs designed to fit the requirements of a dynamic, professional career and meet the needs of a society that increasingly demands lifelong learning. On 24 February 2014, Admiral Walsh joined iSIGHT Partners, a Dallasbased cyber security company.

While in the armed forces, Admiral Walsh held consecutive assignments as one of the highest-ranking officers in the U.S. Navy from 2007-2012, first as the Vice Chief of Naval Operations and then as Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, where he commanded the largest fleet in the world. Admiral Walsh commanded the Joint Support Force, Operation TOMODACHI, in response to the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake, tsunami, and radiological crisis. He received the 'Grand Cordon - Order of the Rising Sun' from the government of Japan and was recognized by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, with the 'Eagle on the World Award' – he is the first uniformed military officer to receive this prestigious recognition in the 27-year history of the award. He received similar recognition and awards from the Japan-America societies in Dallas-Fort Worth and Southern California. The Republic of Korea recognized him with the Tong-il Award, the nation's highest peacetime military honor.

In addition to operational duties that included assignments in combat and flying with the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron – the Blue Angels, command of Strike/Fighter Squadron ONE ZERO FIVE, Carrier Air Wing ONE, Carrier Strike Group SEVEN, and U.S. FIFTH Fleet in the Middle East, ADM Walsh was a White House Fellow and served in the Office of Management and Budget.

ADM Walsh is a 1973 graduate from Jesuit College Preparatory School in Dallas, Texas, where he received the Distinguished Graduate and Distinguished Alumnus awards. He is a 1977 graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy and earned a Bachelor of Science degree. Additionally, he received a Master of Arts degree from Chapman University, a Master of Arts in Law & Diplomacy and Ph.D. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Admiral Walsh received an honorary doctorate from the University of Dallas and is the Chairman of the Dallas Committee on Foreign Relations. He serves on the World Affairs Council, the Baylor Healthcare Foundation, is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and participates in several community and nonprofit organizations in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.