“The mentor is an inexhaustible source of mental and psychological support which solidifies one’s fortitude and helps unleash one’s potential. Mentoring provides texture, advice and context to help individuals increase their vision of the future, hone their skills, solidify their approach and stroke their passions.” (Dean Yannis C. Yortsos, USC School of Engineering 2011)

The mentor is someone who takes a special interest in helping another person develop professionally. An effective mentoring relationship is characterized by mutual respect, trust, understanding and empathy.

PURPOSE
In loving tribute to friend, colleague and life-long mentor to countless physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in Oklahoma, the Mark Acker Memorial Mentor Award is to recognize a person who has demonstrated exceptional ability in guiding the professional growth and has influenced the development of physical therapists and/or physical therapist assistants in an outstanding or unique manner.

ELIGIBILITY
• Nominees must be OPTA members in good standing.
• Members currently serving on the Board of Directors and Awards Committee are not eligible for consideration of this award.
• Nominees must have evidence of actively engaging in mentoring activities for at least three years.
• Nominees cannot have received this award previously within the past five years.

SELECTION CRITERIA
The intent of this award is to reward excellence in a variety of mentoring functions. Specifically, the nominator need describe:
1. The nominee’s impact on mentees as a professional role model.
2. The nominee’s effect on the professional development of other therapists/mentees.
3. Evidence of the nominee’s mentoring efforts sustained over time, as well as, their mentees’ success(es).

Note that these criteria are stated in broad terms so that contributions of a nominee may fit into one of several areas.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
1. Nomination form
2. Letter of nomination that specifically focuses on the contributions of the nominee in relation to the award criteria listed above, at least one page in length.
3. Up to three additional letters of support from mentees who can provide a firsthand account of how the nominee influenced his or her career, including specific academic, clinical, educational, research and regulatory achievements (of the mentee) will be considered as important.

Complete nomination must be sent as one unit by mail or electronic mail to the OPTA Management Office.

SELECTION PROCESS
Voting members of the OPTA Board of Directors will review completed applications that are submitted by the advertised deadline. The top three nominees will be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the OPTA Board of Directors, who will make the final decision. This award will be given annually at the discretion of the Executive Committee, dependent upon the qualifications of those nominated.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: MARCH 9, 2018
The following person is nominated for consideration for the MARK ACKER MEMORIAL MENTOR AWARD

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

TITLE: ____________________________________________________________

NOMINEE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address
City / Zipcode

Phone: Cell or Office

APTA MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: (attach separate sheet, if necessary)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: (attach separate sheet, if necessary)

Please make sure nominee meets the eligibility and criteria for this award. Follow all submission requirements, and submit all information together either by mail or email.

Signature of Nominator
Date

in the capacity of ____________________________
(individual member, officer, PT, PTA)

Nominator (please print): ____________________________

Contact Information:
Phone: __________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________

MAIL: OPTA Office
P.O. Box 5354
Edmond, OK 73083

EMAIL: director@okpt.org

Disclaimer: The Recommendation Form is used by the Nominating Committee as a notification mechanism only. The number of Recommendation Forms submitted on behalf of an individual does not determine whether or not that individual will be slated for the Founder’s Award.

*** DEADLINE: MARCH 9, 2018 ****