

2008 Barbara Knothe Burn Therapist Achievement Award:
Dana Nakamura, OTR/L, CLT, CLMC

Dana Nakamura, OTR/L, CLT, CLMC has been a Occupational Therapist for 23 years and during her illustrious career she has dedicated over 18 years to multiple facets of burn care and rehabilitation. She has spent the majority of her career at the University of Washington Burn Center at Harborview Medical Center holding numerous positions including Occupational Therapy Supervisor and Clinical Specialist for Burns & Plastic Reconstructive services for both adult and pediatric patients. Always up for a challenge, Dana has most recently taken the role of Occupational Therapist at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center on the acute care and burn/trauma team where she is currently developing the burn rehabilitation program.

Dana holds multiple professional affiliations including the Washington Occupational Therapy Association (1986 – present); American Occupational Therapy Association (1986 – present); American Burn Association (1990 – present); International Society for Burn Injuries (2002 – present); and the Academy of Lymphatic Studies (2005 – present). She has authored 13 scholarly publications and served as lead author on 4 of these publications and since 2000 has consecutively presented at least one professional presentation at each subsequent American Burn Association annual meeting except for 2004 when she had 4 presentations while serving as the Chair of the OT / PT Special Interest Group. Dana has also been appointed to the ABA Education Committee, the Aftercare and Reintegration Committee of the ABA and Phoenix Society as well as SOAR Site coordinator. Dana also has pioneered many new techniques to enhance the service delivery and rehabilitation of burn patients including virtual reality to decrease pain management with therapy and implementing Lymphedema management techniques with burns. Dana embodies the spirit and breadth of the burn clinician – selflessly giving of herself to her patients and constantly striving to learn and grow so that she can provide the best treatment options no matter what the circumstances may bring.

Previous recipients of the Barbara Knothe Burn Therapist Achievement Award:
2007: Mary Jo Baryza MS, PT, PCS Shriners Hospital for Children – Boston, MA
2006: Beth Franzen, OTR Regions Burn Center – St. Paul, MN
2005: Marilyn L. Moore, PT Univ. of Washington Burn Center – Seattle, WA
2004: Michael Serghiou, OTR Shriners Hospital for Children – Galveston, TX
2003: R. Scott Ward, PhD, PT Intermountain Burn Center – Salt Lake City, UT
2002: Reg Richard, MS, PT US Army Inst. of Surgical Research – San Antonio, TX