June 20, 2013—Dr. Gary Laustsen was inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP) on Thursday, June 20, 2013 during the AANP national conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The FAANP program was established in 2000 to recognize nurse practitioner leaders who have made outstanding contributions to health care through clinical practice, research, education, or policy. Priority initiatives of AANP are the development of leadership and mentorship programs for nurse practitioners and nurse practitioner students. Fellows of the AANP are visionaries committed to the global advancement of nursing through the development of imaginative and creative future nurse practitioner leaders, and as such, hold an annual think tank to strategize about the future of nurse practitioners and health care outside the confines of traditional thinking. A limited number of nurse practitioners are selected for this highly coveted distinction each year.

Dr. Gary Laustsen will continue the tradition of contributing to the mission of the AANP and promoting the role of the nurse practitioner. Currently, Dr. Laustsen is teaching graduate nurse practitioner students and overseeing the final doctoral projects of Doctor of Nursing Practice students for OHSU. He serves as the School of Nursing’s Director of the Rural Health Track and maintains part-time clinical practice in rural eastern Oregon. Dr. Laustsen will continue to explore his ongoing research interests in rural advanced practice nursing and the inter-relationship between health and the environment.

The American Association of Nurse Practitioners is the largest, full-service national professional organization for nurse practitioners of all specialties. With more than 45,000 individual members and 200 group members, AANP represents the interests of approximately 167,000 nurse practitioners around the country. AANP continually advocates for the active role of nurse practitioners as providers of high-quality, cost-effective, personalized, patient-centered health care.

For more information, visit aanp.org. To locate an NP in your community, go to npfinder.com.