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American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
Honors Fellows for 2010

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) recently announced the Fellows of the AANP (FAANP) inductees for 2010.

The FAANP program was established in 2000 to recognize nurse practitioner (NP) leaders who have made outstanding contributions to health care through NP clinical practice, research, education, or policy. Priority initiatives of FAANP are the development of leadership and mentorship programs for NPs and NP students.

Fellows of the AANP are visionaries committed to the global advancement of nursing through the development of imaginative and creative future NP leaders, and as such, hold an annual think tank to strategize about the future of NPs and health care outside the confines of traditional thinking.

Emily Merrill, Ph.D., R.N., FNP, associate professor and department chair for Nurse Practitioner Studies in the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing, was selected as one of the FAANP inductees for 2010.

“Our school is fortunate to have Dr. Merrill’s vast clinical and academic experience,” said Chandice Covington, Ph.D., R.N., interim dean of the School of Nursing. “This further recognizes her wealth of knowledge and expertise on a national level.”

Merrill’s area of expertise is the role of nurse practitioners in primary care. She most recently conducted a study focusing on the experiences of women as overweight patients.

A limited number of NPs are selected for this highly coveted distinction each year. The new FAANP members will continue the tradition of contributing to the mission of the AANP and promoting the role of the NP as a provider of quality, cost-effective health care.
The AANP was founded in 1985 and is the oldest, largest, and only full-service national professional organization for NPs of all specialties. With more than 27,500 individual members and 131 group members, AANP represents the interests of approximately 135,000 NPs around the country. AANP continually advocates for the active role of NPs as providers of high-quality, cost-effective and personalized healthcare. For more information about AANP, visit www.aanp.org.