Name: A. Louise Pinkerton

Department/Unit: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Conference Attended: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention 2023

Date of Conference: November 16-18, 2023

Award Amount: $1,000

Briefly summarize how your attendance at the conference enhanced your professional development and allowed you to gain a better understanding of teaching in your discipline or trends in higher education in general.

The ASHA Convention is one of the largest and most prestigious national conferences in Speech-Language Pathology. Attendance at the conference enhanced my professional development through many sessions and posters about voice therapy, graduate student supervision, and equity in health care. I appreciated the opportunity to reevaluate my approach to teaching graduate students and to verify certain practices while making changes to others. The Convention has extensive exhibitors from whom I got updates and training on new technology for evaluating the voice and general resources for our graduate students. I also had the opportunity to do a significant amount of networking and connecting with other clinical supervisors and voice specialists. We had in-depth discussions about topics from trauma informed care to best practices in educating young adults. This kept me informed about current trends in other graduate programs and clinics across the country.

How have you been able to share what you learned about teaching with your department, the University of Iowa, and/or beyond?

Information on VPI dysfunction was immediately applied to teaching a graduate student clinician to perform at resonance exam for a new evaluation. Other information will be incorporated into my teaching this coming semester as new practices for educating graduate students, supervising students providing clinical services, and modifying clinical practices to be most appropriate and equitable for our clients. My students next semester will be trained on using Visi Pitch software based on my learning. I also began
gathering information and quotes for getting up to date equipment for the new experiential learning lab that will be in our new CSD building. Other clinical and tenure line faculty and I have had various discussions about what we learned at this convention about discipline pedagogy and what changes we are thinking about making to our program. Beyond sharing knowledge about teaching at the university, I was invited to repeat my conference presentation at Grand Rounds for the University of Utah Voice Clinic. I’ve also been invited to do two podcasts on voice services and career development and am discussing creating professional development courses for a continuing education platform.