The 2018 Voice Institute hosted 56 Voice Institute attendees. 14 SLPs and graduate students and 42 laryngectomees. Local faculty were recruited to assist in reducing the cost of the meeting. Eight of the fourteen faculty members were local. Five of the fourteen faculty members required reimbursement for travel. Eight of the fourteen faculty members stayed at the hotel for a total of 35 nights.

This was the first year that social media was used to reach potential attendees. The Voice Institute set up a Face Book page as well as a Twitter account. Information was posted periodically regarding faculty, agenda and the location of the meeting. Posts were shared to other pages as well including The IAL Face Book page, WebWhispers and Lary’s Voice. Throughout the year the Face Book page attracted many new potential attendees and was helpful in answering attendee’s questions and connecting them with scholarships.

Bob Smiley, President of the Florida Laryngectomee Association, sponsored 12 persons with a laryngectomee from Florida to attend the VI.

Florida Universities and hospitals were contacted regarding the meeting. Follow up e-mails were sent 6 weeks prior to the meeting. The meeting was also posted on the Florida Speech Language Hearing Associations webpage as well as ASHA’s website. The following is a list of outreach regarding the meeting:

- ASHA Online Digest
- ASHA SIG 2 ~ Neurogenic Communication Disorders
- ASHA SIG 13 Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders Dysphagia

Facebook Group Posts

- SLPs for Evidenced Base Practice
- Medical SLP Forum
- HNC SLP Group
- SLPs
- Speech Language Pathologist ~ Central Florida
- NSSSLHA at FIU
- NSSSLHA-USF Chapter
- National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSSLHA)
- UCF NSSSLHA
- NSSSLHA UF

Universities (emails and phone calls)

- Florida Atlantic University
• Florida International University
• Florida State University
• Jacksonville University
• Nova Southeastern University
• University of Central Florida
• University of Florida, Gainesville
• University of South Florida
• Old Dominion University

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Melvin, PhD, CCC-SLP, CPC
Voice Institute Director 2017-2019