1991 Workshop for Specialists

Methods and specific techniques to enhance active clinicians' treatment skills will be the main focus at a workshop sponsored by Northwestern University and The Speech Foundation of America on July 8-19, 1991.

Organizers of the fifth annual Stuttering Therapy: Workshop for Specialists will provide a situation in which active clinicians can enrich their knowledge about stuttering and enhance their treatment skills. Principles that provide a rationale for the decision making process will also be carefully considered.

This program fills a need for specialized training to work with adults and children who stutter. There are now over 80 graduates of this program who make up the beginnings of a nationwide network of specialists. Many of the graduates have gone on to create specialized workshops and seminars in their own states, drawing from what they learned.

Activities during the 12-day workshop will include lectures, discussions, guided observations of clinical evaluation and treatment, videotaped illustrations, broad consideration of available techniques, direct instruction and the practice of procedures, and the sharing of experience.

Admission is limited to those who have demonstrated an active interest in stuttering and the deadline for application is May 15. See workshop information on p.2.

Fraser and Williams on NBC

Speech Foundation President Jane Fraser and Vice-President for Professional Affairs Dean Williams, Ph.D., were interviewed by Deborah Norville on NBC's Today Show on May 8, 1990.

The five-minute segment, estimated to have reached 6 million viewers, was organized for National Stuttering Awareness Week. The interview generated over 6,000 letters to the Speech Foundation.

- All public libraries in the United States have received a copy of the latest edition of Malcolm Fraser's Self-Therapy for the Stutterer thanks to a $10,000 contribution from the Genuine Parts Company.

- The Annenberg Foundation contributed a three-year grant to the Speech Foundation in the amount of $25,000. In a letter to Speech Foundation Director Malcolm Fraser, Mr. Walter Annenberg said, "There certainly could be no doubt in the minds of thinking citizens that the Speech Foundation of America is an affirmative effort to help the sufferers of this tragic problem." The first installment of this grant will be received this month.

- The Speech Foundation has received the equivalent of $483,320 in free public service advertisements (PSA's) in 1990. Some of the publications who have placed PSA's for us last year include Time, U.S. News & World Report, Newsweek, Money, Entertainment Weekly, People, Family Circle, Good Housekeeping, and USAir Magazine.

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SFA Workshop Benefits Texas Schools

Ms. Janice Westbrook, a speech pathologist who attended the Speech Foundation’s workshop at Northwestern and who works for the Dallas schools, has been working hard to train other Texas public school speech pathologists to become specialists in stuttering.

The Speech Foundation co-sponsored this project with the Dallas Independent School District.

In Dallas in June 1990, Dr. Dean Williams of the Speech Foundation and Mrs. Diane Hill and Mrs. June Campbell of Northwestern University, led a weeklong meeting for the Texas school specialists.

Dr. Williams continues to monitor this project and the Speech Foundation provides free books to all those involved.

The goal of this workshop is to have at least one specialist in stuttering in each school district. Jane Fraser, President of the Speech Foundation, said that she hopes other states will follow Ms. Westbrook’s example in implementing this worthwhile project.

Focus on Children

School clinicians will focus on successful stuttering therapy for school age children at a conference in Knoxville, Tennessee on June 14 and 15.

The conference, titled Stuttering Therapy: Innovative Models in the Schools, is organized by the Speech Foundation of America and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Its objectives will be to examine the nature of the problem of stuttering in school age children and discuss procedures for evaluation and treatment for successful stuttering therapy by school clinicians. Participants will also discuss innovations for meeting special needs of school age stutterers, scheduling therapy, managing caseloads, counseling and meeting parents, managing peer pressure, and other issues related to delivery of service in the schools.

Attendance will be limited and preference will be given to those applications received before May 15. Application and registration materials are available from the Speech Foundation of America.

Information on Conferences and Workshops

Stuttering Therapy: Workshop for Specialists, July 8-19, 1991, Hugo H. Gregory, Ph.D., Professor and Director of Stuttering Programs, Northwestern University, 2299 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60208.


International Conference on Stuttering Therapy in Dourdan, France, August 30 - September 1, 1991, Attn: A. Eon-Bourgeois, Havas Communication, 79-83 Rue Baudin, 92300 Levallois Perret, France. For more information, contact Hugo H. Gregory, Program Chairman.