

# The Best After Summit Drumming Ever!

## Sharing and co-creating on how to keep the generative connections alive and get progress after AI-Summits - “Drumming, dancing and doing”

*Workshop team:*

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*WAIC Theme:* “AI research and development” AND/OR “AI and social and societal evolution”

*Type of communication:* Workshop and interactive conversations: 75 minutes

*Number of participants:* Unlimited

### **Abstract**

By now we can pretty confidently say that we know how to design and facilitate successful Appreciative Inquiry Summits. It seems like we as a community have co-created, developed and refined a set of practices, mindsets and skills that time after time take us to attractive and generative summits. However, when it comes to what happens after AI-summits, what has been referred to as the phase of “drumming, dancing and doing”, we feel like there is still a lot of potential to be released as well as practices to be shared and experimented with. Our experience is much in line with the conclusions from the inspiring case of using AI-summits at Clarke “there is plenty of information out there about the Appreciative Inquiry process - but few resources to help companies know what to do after an AI”.

A lot of questions are alive for us concerning the post-summit facilitation and dynamics, such as:

- How do we support the self-organization with some sort of organization or check-points without taking it all away?
- How do we enable those generative connections that established during the summit to stay vibrant and alive?
- How do we facilitate post-summits for meaningful and lasting results?
- How do we keep or refill that vibrant energy and generative force when people physically split and go back to different organizations and even different countries?

During this playful and interactive section we will all start by sharing our insights and experiences of experimenting and finding out what works in the phase of after AI-summits so far. We will also share our own practices, tips and trix so far. From that unique and valuable session, we will collectively move into a process of applying our new collective insights and knowledge in terms of co-creating and designing the best after WAIC drumming ever. A drumming, dancing and doing that embrace the principles of AI and makes them come alive in new and beautiful ways also in the phase of implementation and doing. We want to bring

together the collective wisdom and creativity of the amazing community of WAIC to make a leap in this area that we see as full of potential.

### **Corresponding author and speaker**

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### **Speakers information**

Johan Lilja is an associated professor within quality management at Mid Sweden University. His PhD thesis, presented 2010, was devoted to bring “the positive” as a target into quality management practice and theory. Since then the exploration concerning expanding theory and practices for product, service and organizational development had been much inspired by Appreciative Inquiry (AI) and positive psychology in a close dance with quality management and in combination with other areas such as design thinking, leadership and innovation. Together with a personal and professional strong engagement in sustainability this has naturally also led to an increasing interest in large scale change and facilitation of various AI initiatives such as summits for accelerating companies, agencies, the Mid Sweden University and now regions and countries into a more sustainable and flourishing future. The latest work relates to a curiosity in using the strengths and practices of AI and positive psychology to accelerate sustainability and flourishing. A core question is how we can accomplish long-term and wide-spread impact.

David Hansen is an assistant professor in sustainable production and innovation management at Aalborg University in Copenhagen. His PhD thesis from 2013 engaged with bridging strength-based and problem-oriented approaches to operations management and organizational improvement. Since 2007 David has used Appreciative Inquiry to drive change in all types of organizations and from different positions, ranging from consulting of specialized engineering firms to chairing a volunteer organizations with tens of thousands of members.

Daniel Richardsson, principal with Styrkebaserad i Sverige AB (Strength Based in Sweden, Inc.), is an organizational consultant and change maker in the field of Sustainable Development and Flourishing Businesses and Societies. Daniel is working for The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency - Sida - a government agency working on behalf of the Swedish parliament and government, with the mission to reduce poverty in the world. With Sida Daniel is currently working with the “Swedish Government Agencies for Sustainable Development” project. Daniel is also working for the SMICE Network for Sustainable Development in the Mid Nordic Region of Scandinavia. As a facilitator and guide for both short- and long-term initiatives and development processes, Daniel inspires leaders, employees, organizations, researchers, regions, and students to take bold steps to practice, explore and learn how to successfully use Appreciative Inquiry, Design Thinking/Doing, Positive Organizational Psychology and other strength-based processes and behaviors.