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New Year, New Beginnings

Dear reader and AI companion,
Thank you for reading the *International Appreciative Inquiry Journal – AI Practitioner*. At the beginning of this new year we have some exciting developments to share about the journal. Let's begin with some context.

History

The sudden passing of *AI Practitioner's* publisher and editor-in-chief Wick van der Vaart in October 2017 left us all a bit shaken. Since then, a group of committed people have been working to ensure the continuity of the publication. Thanks to their work, the creation and publication of AIP's 2017 and 2018 issues was possible. At the same time, we also developed thoughts and conversations about the next steps for the *Appreciative Inquiry Practitioner* journal.

A new partnership

One of our strong wishes was to have a strong partnership for a co-publisher model to ensure a vibrant future for AIP, where the partners complement each other and help support the journal with a variety of strengths and abilities. As such, we are excited to announce the agreement between the David Cooperrider Center for Appreciative Inquiry at Champlain College (<https://www.champlain.edu/appreciativeinquiry>) and Kessels & Smit, The Learning Company (<https://www.kessels-smit.com/en/home>) as co-publishers, beginning in January 2019.

As the global Center of Excellence in Appreciative Inquiry, publishing a journal with the history and promised future of *AI Practitioner* is in keeping with the David Cooperrider Center's role as a scholarship incubator advancing the theory and practice of AI.

Kessels & Smit, as an international group of professionals in learning and development, have a long tradition of collaborating in the worldwide community of AI practitioners and scholars. One landmark was co-hosting the 2012 World AI Conference in Belgium.

Worldwide ambassadors

A second wish was to have a broad international editorial board to act as ambassadors for the International AI Practitioner journal, consisting of people who are also ambassadors in our international AI community. The role of this board is:

- To identify future directions and topics,
- To approach potential contributors,
- To identify possible peer reviewers,
- To team up with guest editors in the creation of themes for the quarterly issues.

We are more than grateful and happy to announce our newly formed editorial board: Michelle McQuaid (Australia), Keith Storace (Australia), Larissa Loures (Brazil), Joan McArthur-Blair (Canada), Ignacio Pavez (Chile), Mille Themsen Duvander (Denmark), Jean Pagès (France), Neena Verma (India), Dhruva Acharya (Nepal), Joep de Jong (Netherlands), Jacqueline Wong (Singapore), Anastasia Bukashe (South Africa), Anne Radford (UK), Jacqueline Stavros (USA), Robyn Stratton-Berkessel (USA).

Publishers' team

And we are happy that two of the key people who have been working on the continuation of this journal in the last couple of years will also be dedicating their strengths to this new phase: Shelagh Aitken as managing editor, and Gaby van de Schepop managing the website, social media and design.

The co-publishers' team consists of David Cooperrider, Lindsey Godwin and AnneMarie DeFreest for the David Cooperrider Center and Saskia Tjepkema and Luc Verheijen on behalf of Kessels & Smit.

You

The only reason to connect all these people is because of you. The aim of the AI Practitioner journal is to support knowledge sharing and building in the worldwide AI community of individuals and organisations. We hope the journal serves as a platform to exchange, to collaborate, and to raise the theory and practice of Appreciative Inquiry further. And we strongly hope that it will connect AI practitioners and scholars from all over the world, building a strong network.

For that we need readers and we need writers. As a reader, please subscribe by using this link: <https://aipractitioner.com/product/subscription-for-practitioners-2019/>. If you are interested in contributing as an author and/or if you have an idea for a theme or topic, please contact us via <https://aipractitioner.com/contact/>. We welcome all ideas in the spirit of appreciation.

We are looking forward to a great new chapter!

Lindsey Godwin & Luc Verheijen

January 2019