



## CALL FOR PAPERS

University West welcomes you to the first international **WIL Conference 2022** to be held in Trollhättan, Sweden, 7-9 December 2022. We want to co-create a unique arena for enhancing and sharing both research and practice on WIL and related topics. We invite scholars with genuine interdisciplinary perspectives as well as practitioners, collaboration partners and actors with cross-sector ambitions to take on challenges and opportunities to co-create a more sustainable world. WIL makes local, regional and global issues working in a joint effort.

The program includes distinguished international keynote speakers, forefront research paper sessions, interactive societal impact panels, mingling PhD student poster session, and an amazing Christmas-inspired social program in the city of Trollhättan, Sweden.

Conference website is now open: <https://www.hv.se/en/wil2022>

Contact: [wil2022@hv.se](mailto:wil2022@hv.se)

### IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for submission of abstracts	5 September, 2022
Notification of acceptance	10 October, 2022
Deadline final submission of developed papers and posters	15 November, 2022
WIL Conference	7-9 December, 2022

### RESEARCH AND PRACTICE ON WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING

The recent global developments remind us of the importance of learning in a life-long perspective to sustain better in our lives in general, and in our working life. We need to take a step further and reframe the roots of working and learning to make them simultaneously relevant in the context of the current global challenges with sustainability issues and technological advances.

In the WIL Conference 2022 we want to embrace the next wave of learning, i.e. work-integrated learning. By this stand, we want to improve the conditions for integrating learning and working, and simultaneously considering tasks, technologies, people, and social structures at the individual, organizational, and societal levels. What is needed to clarify and strengthen the meaning and scope of WIL? How can we highlight the sustainable character of WIL? How do we measure our research and societal impacts, and what have we achieved so far?

WIL is a research area that in the interface between academia and other actors in society, as well as between disciplines, offers new knowledge and skills. The integration of theoretical and practical knowledge, taken from learning contexts in education as well as working life and civil society, forms the basis for the integration of work and learning. The varying conditions for WIL may be understood as a social practice, where actors from various backgrounds and with different artefacts coexist and cocreate knowledge.

## CONFERENCE OVERALL THEME: “WIL IN THE SERVICE OF SOCIETY”

The overall theme for the first year’s WIL conference is "WIL in the service of society". The relationship between work and learning is becoming increasingly important as a society in transition requires "seamless" integration between the challenges of working life and lifelong learning. Research under this theme can offer philosophical, methodological, empirical, or conceptual insights and perspectives. The overall ambition is to further and deepen the knowledge of how learning in and for the new working life can be realized in various contexts. Studies can be derived from education, professional life, everyday life as well as organizational learning and change processes or any combination of these. The focus of the studies can be individuals, groups, organizations, mechanisms, or structures etc. Issues to consider are, but are not limited to, working and learning conditions, organization, processes, content, forms, and consequences.

## CONFERENCE FORMAT AND CONTENT

The event will be held on campus at University West in Trollhättan, Sweden. We would be delighted to have you on campus to join us for a lively face-to-face discussion and networking. It will be a hybrid event as well, both speakers and delegates will be able to participate either online or at the campus’ venue. Online and on campus participation is possible except for the poster sessions and the social program.

WIL is about learning through a lively exchange of ideas, reflective conduct, and active participation in a co-creation atmosphere. You will have the opportunity to have your research discussed by international scholars. You will meet peers and practitioners to share and strengthen your network. You will have opportunities to publish your work in interesting journals. From the program we can present:

- Four keynote sessions – webinars and on campus with support for questions and answers to speakers
- Four research tracks - parallel sessions with presentations and discussions in hybrid and active learning classrooms
- PhD students’ poster session – mingle sessions in coffee areas on campus only, posters can be displayed on the conference website
- Three societal impact panels - webinars with support for questions and answers to panelists via online tools. A connected, on campus lecture hall will house delegates and panelists on campus
- Social program - On campus facilities for social and business networking will be provided. And we will allow for spacious areas with coffee breaks and mingling. An on campus and amazing social program will begild the physical presence.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Stephen Billet**, Professor of Adult and Vocational Education in the School of Education and Professional Studies at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, <https://experts.griffith.edu.au/19067-stephen-billett>

**Professor Barbara Charniewska**, Senior Professor, Gothenburg Research Institute, GRI, Gothenburg, Sweden, <https://www.gu.se/om-universitetet/hitta-person/barbaraczarniawska>

**Lee Rusznyak**, Associate Professor at the School of Education, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, <https://www.wits.ac.za/staff/academic-a-z-listing/r/leerusznyakwitsacza/>

**Carsten Sorensen**, Associate Professor (Reader) of Information Systems and Innovation, Department of Management, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom, <https://www.lse.ac.uk/management/people/academic-staff/csorensen>

## RESEARCH TRACKS

**Research tracks** focus on a specific topic or aspect within the field of work-integrated learning, to survey and build the WIL community as whole, as well as to share latest thinking around questions related to the track. For WIL 2022, we are excited to invite contributions to the following three research tracks:

### 1. Healthy and Sustainable Work-Integrated Learning

Contemporary workplaces place great emphasis on employees' ability to develop their skills and learn continuously while maintaining their health and wellbeing. To ensure a work-integrated learning (WIL) where employees are provided the conditions to be able to develop and grow in their professional life, and at the same time maintain health, more evidence-based knowledge is needed.

In this track, we invite paper submissions that investigate health and social sustainability in relation to WIL or similar processes of learning in/through work to enables people's skills, abilities, and resources to maintain and develop health and well-being. This could include studies focusing individual or group processes, but also organizational or strategic initiatives aimed at supporting and developing health and sustainability.

*Chairs: Professor Sandra Pennbrant, Professor Anette Ekström-Bergström, Dr Hildur Gunnarsdottir, Associate professor Maria Skyvell Nilsson.*

### 2. Co-creating an inclusive society through work-integrated learning

Contemporary societies face increasingly complex challenges of ecologic-, economic-, and not least social character. Consequences of climate change to escalating nationalism and polarisation, as well as growing socio-economic disparities between people and societies, are all multifaceted complex challenges facing our society. Hence, to continuously develop and strengthen an inclusive democratic society requires cross-sectoral collaboration to co-create and strengthen knowledge and learning between actors and institutions at all levels, from local to international.

This track focus on research that, through a work-integrated learning profile, discuss and analyse various forms of co-creating collaboration to overcome challenges and provide opportunities for an improved inclusive democratic society. Hence, this track welcome research contributions that in various forms and perspectives addresses issues related to the challenges described above, or equivalent.

*Chairs: Professor Per Assmo, Associate Professor Fredrik Sunnemark, Dr Linn Gustavsson, Dr Fredrik Sjögren*

### 3. Forming professional knowledge by designing for Work-integrated Learning

In an increasingly complex world, our quality of life depends on the knowledge and competence of professionals. A key in today's working life is knowing how to continuously learn at work and redevelop work practices by integrating new concepts, principles, and approaches. Work-integrated Learning (WIL) is a concept that refers both to the learning and knowledge production that takes place in and through work and to the specific process whereby students or professionals learn to integrate

new concepts, principles, and approaches into work and educational practices. Both students and professionals develop and improve their professional knowledge through experiencing WIL.

This track welcomes contributions that address innovative and critical perspectives on the possibilities and challenges of designing for students' and/or professionals' WIL in different settings. We invite theoretical as well as empirical contributions.

*Chairs: Professor Jan Gustavsson Nyckel, Dr Sara Willermark, Dr Ville Björk*

#### **4. Work-integrated Learning in a digitalized society**

Digital transformation is changing our society and specifically impact working life conditions. Digitalization disrupts existing and traditional work practices, work structures, management, leadership and co-workership and therefore calls for new workplace designs, organizational routines, skills and learning. This is specifically interesting to study in professional organizations as manufacturing industry, government, and services organizations as a whole.

For this mini-track, we seek to attract research contributions that extend existing research by focusing on socio-technical, organizational, managerial and/ or individual challenges of digital transformation in a digitalized society. We welcome conceptual, empirical, and design-oriented contributions on macro, meso and micro levels of analysis for this mini-track.

*Chairs: Professor Lars Svensson, Dr Karin Höglund, Dr Monika Hattinger*

### **DOCTORAL STUDENT POSTER SESSION**

This track is addressed to *doctoral students* and the overall objective is to discuss topics related to work-integrated learning in a broad sense. We aim for a *sharing and cultivating* atmosphere in this mingle session with posters submitted by doctoral students doing studies relating to work-integrated learning in a broad sense. Doctoral students present their thesis work by posters... senior scholars from the research community as well as practitioners are welcomed to meet and support doctoral students in an informal and constructive format.

The doctoral student poster session is open to all research themes and methodological approaches that is common practice in research related to WIL community. A fundamental question to discuss is: How can we create new knowledge about work and learning for a more sustainable societal impact? We want to develop knowledge about new phenomena that are under study of current doctoral students.

Doctoral students are invited to submit an extended abstract in line with the general guidelines in the call for papers. Some proposed paragraphs to be included are *research topic, motivation, research questions/aim, context and methods, theoretical and methodological perspectives, results and type of contributions and implications so far (if any), societal impact and relevance*. The doctoral students are encouraged to try to put focus on explaining why you have chosen your research questions, methods, theory etc. The submission should also include *contact information for the main supervisor*.

*Chair: Dr Susanna Höglund Arveklev*

### **SOCIETAL IMPACT PANELS**

#### **1. Knowledge and Lifelong Learning in Higher Education and the surrounding society**

"One of the greatest challenges in a knowledge based society is to recognize learning that occurs in different settings (Recognized Prior Learning – RPL). One way to keep the knowledge on a high level

is to firstly validate skills and knowledges and thereafter to co-produce educational activities that matches the need from the individual and organizations, doing this can open up a transfer between different educational systems to move to a more individual and organizational trajectory of learning.

In the panel we will discuss among others - The role of higher education of today. The needs from the surrounding society for change in a lifelong learning (LLL) perspective. How can we work with RPL and validation more systematically? How can we withhold the position of being a knowledge-based society, with democratic values? And much more!

*Chair: Associate professor Kristina Johansson*

## **2. Transformation and Sustainable development for Industrial Work-integrated Learning**

Industrial work-integrated learning (I-WIL) is a priorities research area for University West designed with the aim to reflect and target challenges with specific relevance for the industrial sector in Sweden. One of the more prominent concerns facing the contemporary industrial sector in Sweden are related to sustainable development and the challenges of developing functional systems, methods, and strategies needed in transforming industrial practices, productions systems and ever shifting demands for relevant competence and skills to fit with the expectations of a more sustainable society

The panel will highlight questions such as: What are the most important challenges associated with the contemporary industrial transformation towards a more sustainable society? Is the sustainable transformation of the industry different in comparison to other structural shifts the Swedish industrial sectors have dealt with historically? if yes, how? How can we address and contribute to those challenges today and tomorrow?

*Chair: Professor Lars Walter*

## **3. Social sustainability through work-integrated learning**

Escalating polarization, segregation, and violence between people and societies, are multifaceted complex challenges facing our society. Distrust of political democratic social systems, affect possibilities of creating fair, inclusive and sustainable societies.

The panel will highlight questions such as; How do we enhance sustainable social development processes that meets today's and tomorrow's challenges? How can democratic governance ensure integration and rights of all resident groups? How can co-creative collaborative work, between the public, academic, and private spheres be improved to enhance sustainable social development?

*Chair: Professor Per Assmo*

## **SUBMISSION TYPES AND GUIDELINES**

We welcome extended abstracts that present original research. Both theoretical and empirical contributions are welcomed. All abstracts will undergo a double-blind reviewing process. Once the abstract is accepted you agree to have at least one author registered and paid for the conference.

The submission guidelines for the extended abstracts are similar across all tracks and the PhD student track.

**Extended abstract:** minimum 600 words, maximum 1000 words, excluding references. The extended abstract should include: title of the extended abstract, selected research track or PhD student track,

keywords, name(s) and academic title of the author(s), affiliation(s), complete mail address(es), email address(es) and corresponding author.

**Deadline for the submissions of extended abstracts is 5 September 2022.**

**Email submission:** The extended abstract should be sent by email to: [wil2022@hv.se](mailto:wil2022@hv.se). Submit the abstract using the Word 2013 version of Microsoft, or later version. We suggest naming your file “CorrespondingAuthorName\_WIL2022.docx” to avoid confusion between abstracts.

**Results of the review process** will be communicated to corresponding authors by 10 October 2022.

**Corresponding authors of accepted abstracts** will be further informed about the format guidelines applicable for the final presentation at the conference.

There are two ways of presenting contributions:

- **Oral presentation and discussion of developed paper:** 10 min presentation and 20 min discussion led by an appointed scholar (requires a final submission of a developed paper)
- **Poster and PhD student poster presentation:** to be presented and displayed in conference exhibition area (does not require a final submission, authors should provide a printed poster)

**Deadline for the final submission of developed paper is 15 November 2022.** Further format guidelines will follow.

## PUBLICATION

Developed papers and posters are accessible only to the conference delegates and will be published for public access.

The conference will enable fruitful discussion of developed papers to improve their quality and to support networking and potential journal publication.

The conference organizers are working on journal collaborations with distinguished journals in related fields to arrange for a post-conference publication. Information on plans for journal publications will be further updated. **All accepted abstracts will be published in a WIL Conference Abstract Book with an ISBN!**

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

**Conference Chair:** Professor Ulrika Lundh Snis, [ulrika.snis@hv.se](mailto:ulrika.snis@hv.se), University West, Sweden.

**Program Chairs:** Professor Ulrika Lundh Snis, [ulrika.snis@hv.se](mailto:ulrika.snis@hv.se), Professor Lars Svensson,, Professor Sandra Pennbrandt, Professor Jan Gustavsson Nyckel, Professor Per Assmo, University West, Sweden.

**Organizing Chairs:** Signe Stahlénus, [signe.stahlenius@hv.se](mailto:signe.stahlenius@hv.se), Associate professor Kristina Johansson, [Kristina.johansson@hv.se](mailto:Kristina.johansson@hv.se), Professor Lars Svensson, [lars.svensson@hv.se](mailto:lars.svensson@hv.se), University West, Sweden, Professor Ulrika Lundh Snis, [ulrika.snis@hv.se](mailto:ulrika.snis@hv.se), University West, Sweden

For more information, see: <https://www.hv.se/en/wil2022>

## VENUE

University West, [www.hv.se](http://www.hv.se) in Trollhättan, Sweden, [www.trollhattan.se](http://www.trollhattan.se)

University West in Trollhättan is a university which offers education collaborating with work-life in an attractive and modern study environment. We focus on the student and learning. Work-integrated learning (WIL) as an educational philosophy, a collaboration framework and a research subject permeates the work of WIL at the university and is also our profile.

**Sponsors:**



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Stad**

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