



Welcome to AI Matters 5(2)

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Issue overview

Welcome to the second issue of the fifth volume of the AI Matters Newsletter. We have exciting news from SIGAI Vice-Chair Sanmay Das: "We are delighted to announce that the first ever ACM SIGAI Industry Award for Excellence in Artificial Intelligence will be awarded to the Decision Service created by the Real World Reinforcement Learning Team from Microsoft! The award will be presented at IJ-CAI 2019. For more on the award and the team that received it, please see https://sigai.acm.org/awards/industry_award.html."

This issue opens with our interview series, where Marion Neumann interviews Leslie Pack Kaelbling, a Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at MIT and founder of the Journal of Machine Learning Research.

In our regular columns, we have a summary of upcoming AI conferences and events from Michael Rovatsos. Todd Neller's educational column is dedicated to a *Magic: The Gathering* dataset that provides interesting opportunities for exploring research questions on data science and ML. In the policy column, Larry Medsker summarizes recent AI related initiatives and discusses new jobs in the AI future.

This issue features the first set of winning essays from the 2018 ACM SIGAI Student Essay Contest, with the second set of winning essays to appear in the next issue. In addition to having their essay appear in AI Matters, the contest winners received either monetary prizes or one-on-one Skype sessions with leading AI researchers.

In the regular contributed papers, our editors Cameron Hughes and Tracey Hughes propose potential metrics for commercial AI.

We close with our (now regular) entertainment column, an AI generated crossword puzzle by Adi Botea. You can also find the solution to the puzzle from the previous issue.

Submit to AI Matters!

Thanks for reading! Don't forget to send your ideas and future submissions to *AI Matters*! We're accepting articles and announcements now for the next issue. Details on the submission process are available at <http://sigai.acm.org/aimatters>.



Amy McGovern is co-editor of AI Matters. She is a Professor of computer science at the University of Oklahoma and an adjunct Professor of meteorology. She directs the Interaction, Discovery, Exploration and Adaptation (IDEA) lab. Her research focuses on machine learning and data mining with applications to high-impact weather.



Iolanda Leite is co-editor of AI Matters. She is an Assistant Professor at the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden. Her research interests are in the areas of Human-Robot Interaction and Artificial Intelligence. She aims to develop autonomous socially intelligent robots that can assist people over long periods of time.