

Letter from the Editor

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Dear Members,

In this issue, we open with interviews with Akarai Asai and Noah Golowich, joint winners of the 2026 AAAI/ACM SIGAI Doctoral Dissertation Award. Akari Asai discusses her work on Retrieval Augmented LMs, which have since been widely adopted by industry and culminated in [OpenScholar](#), an application which accurately synthesizes scientific literature for researchers. Noah Golowich tells us about his research into the theory of decision making and learning in games, which have applications in dynamic environments with multiple interacting agents, or Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning.

Then, we move onto our regular AI Ethics & Policy feature, which this quarter is co-authored by Prof. Larry Medsker and Sumit Virmani. It outlines the current accountability vacuum faced by the deployment of agentic AI systems into an unprepared regulatory and legal landscape, and suggests actions that can close the gap.

We close with reports and statistics from SIGAI-sponsored conferences IMPROVE and ICEIS, as well as an announcement for IN4PL, which will take place this October in France. If you have attended any SIGAI-affiliated conferences and would like to share reflections or observations, please feel free to contact us at aimatters@sigai.acm. We may feature selected contributions in a future issue.

Warm regards,

Ella Scallan
Editor-in-Chief, AI Matters