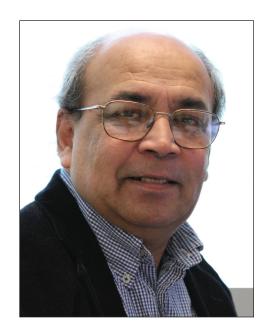*Editorial*

Rethinking *AI Magazine*

Ashok K. Goel

Since its inception in 1980, AI Magazine has played an important role in AAAI and the AI community as a whole. During the last 36 years of its illustrious history, the magazine has gone through several transformations. Now the magazine is going through another transition: David Leake, the long-time editor-in-chief is moving on after 17 years of distinguished service, though fortunately he will continue to advise us as editor emeritus. I am honored and delighted to follow David. I have been a member of the Editorial Board of AI Magazine for several years, associate editor since August 2015, and editor elect since February 2016; my tenure as editor-in-chief starts with this winter 2016 issue. I thank David, Managing Editor Mike Hamilton, former AAAI President Tom Dietterich, and AAAI for recruiting me for this challenge. ...

I am glad that by serendipity my tenure as *AI Magazine* editor is starting with the current special issue on turn-taking with Guest Editors Sean Andrist, Dan Bohus, Bilge Mutlu, and David Schlangen. I am a little partial to this particular theme because turn-taking not only engages fundamental issues in AI but also relates to a variety of topics ranging from human-computer collaboration, to interactive robotics, to applications in space exploration. My thanks to Sean, Dan, Bilge, and David for putting this special issue together.

This issue also contains a compilation of reports on more than 30 workshops affiliated with IJCAI 2016 edited by Biplav Srivastava and Gita Sukthankar. In addition, the current issue contains a remembrance of Harold Cohen, a pioneer in AI in art, by his son Paul Cohen, himself a leader in AI. Harold Cohen's work influenced my own research on creativity and I often cover his work on the AARON program in my teaching.

AI Magazine Redesign

The last change of editors of *AI Magazine* was in 1999. At that time, AI was in the middle of the "AI Winter", and seventeen years back, the web was just beginning to permeate computing. Today, the web is pervasive in society and social media has become ubiquitous. Today, we are witnessing a resurgence of interest in "all things AI"; "AI Spring" seems to have arrived. Thus, this time of transition provides an opportunity for rethinking *AI Magazine*.

Since my appointment as Editor Elect in February, *AI Magazine* has embarked on a cycle of discovery, ideation, design, and execution (to be followed by reflection and iteration). Thus, we have actively canvassed AAAI Past Presidents, AAAI Fellows, as well as members of the *AI Magazine* Editorial Board, AAAI Publications Committee, and AAAI Executive Council as part of discovery and ideation. By now we have received input and feedback from at least sixty AI scientists active in AAAI including regular and student members. I thank Bruce Buchanan, Tom Dietterich, Edward Feigenbaum, Mike Hamilton, Subharao Kambhampati, Raj Reddy, Spencer Rugaber, Reid Smith, Moshe Vardi, Manuela Veloso, and Dajun Zeng for their detailed input and feedback; I especially thank David Leake: He has been a friend and mentor throughout this transition.

The deliberative and collective process of discovery and ideation has led to a vision for *AI Magazine* that can be expressed through five major goals for the magazine: (1) Enhance *AI Magazine* as a leading source for information about the science, engineering, technology, applications, and education of AI, (2) Make *AI Magazine* a primary forum for discussions and debates about the social, cultural, economic, political, ethical, and philosophical aspects of AI, (3) Make *AI Magazine* a central place for the AI community to exchange news, views, and commentaries, (4) Use *AI Magazine* to help bring various perspectives and subdisciplines of AI back together again, and (5) Enhance *AI Magazine* as a potent instrument for recruiting and retaining AAAI members.

To accomplish these goals, we envision creating a new *AI Magazine* with a new focus and design: We will begin by emphasizing expository articles in the magazine (surveys, reviews, tutorials, with only a few, high-quality, scientific articles on specific topics). We plan to dramatically increase the number of columns, featuring writings on various perspectives on AI (such as AI and robotics, AI and machine learning); and columns on AI and in various domains (such as AI and health care, AI and the environment). We will dedicate space in the publication for columns by AAAI past presidents, AAAI Fellows, and members of the *AI Magazine* Editorial Board, AAAI Publications Committee, and AAAI Executive Council. We expect to launch discussion forums for special topics such as the history of AI, AI education, and AI ethics and will encourage written debates (point, counterpoint) on important issues pertaining to AI and society. We also intend to continue offering our readers timely reports on important AI workshops, conferences, and competitions.

Of course we live in the age of the World Wide Web and social media now permeates much of everyday life, especially for the younger generations. Thus, we may envision *AI Magazine* as a digital, interactive, community magazine that lives entirely on the web and provides a social forum for the AI community to virtually meet, discuss, and debate. It is important that the interactive *AI Magazine* is (a) attractive, multimodal, vibrant, (b) dynamic, agile, timely, and (c) easily accessible, searchable, comprehensible. The interactive *AI Magazine* likely will contain many other items such as AI news (science, engineering, technology, industry, government), classifieds (jobs, internships, products, services, books, conferences), abstracts of classic AI papers, honors and awards, conference, journal and funding agency announcements, milestones and obituaries, blogs, videos, podcasts by AAAI members, and commentaries by AAAI members on any of the above. The design and execution of the interactive *AI Magazine* requires significant resources and thus will only unfold over time.

I am very keen on hearing your input and feedback on our plans for *AI Magazine*; so please feel free to send me an email (goel@cc.gatech.edu) with your thoughts, questions, and suggestions. I look forward to working with you, AAAI, and the *AI Magazine* editorial team and staff to realize more of the potential of *AI Magazine*, to fulfill more of its promise. This is so exciting!