

Illustration courtesy, James Gary

e are pleased to introduce *Worldwide AI* — a new column in *AI Magazine* that we hope will keep AAAI members informed about AI efforts around the world. The Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence now serves a global audience, and our members, meeting participants, councilors, and officers reside in countries throughout the world. Worldwide AI is designed to meet our expanded audience's interests.

In the columns that will appear in this and forthcoming issues, readers will find a continuing source of news and information on significant research projects and accomplishments, academic and community events, and experiences fielding notable applications of AI. We expect that increased awareness about AI activities around the world will fuel new opportunities for communication and collaboration. The inaugural columns in this issue of Worldwide AI describe artificial intelligence trends in India and South Africa.

We invite AI researchers and professionals to submit columns on major international activities to share with readers of *AI Magazine*. We hope that you enjoy and will contribute to Worldwide AI!

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