ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER ON
REASONING ABOUT ACTIONS AND CHANGE

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Today

ETAI to be Published by Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences

The Electronic Transactions on Artificial Intelligence has encountered the same issue as other electronic journals: People want them on paper as well. For the individual user, it is fine to download specific articles from a server when she needs them, but it is often felt that there ought to be an issue of paper copies *somewhere*. Sometimes the reasons are for backup in disaster scenarios: "what if the Internet crumbles?" - "what if noone can read postscript after the year 2050?", and sometimes the reasons are for prestige or pure nostalgia: "I like to see my paper in print". At the same time, if everyone is able to get the articles free from the net, then who is going to pay for the paper edition?

For the ETAI, this problem has now been solved through an agreement that has just been signed between the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA), the European Coordinating Committee for Artificial Intelligence (ECCAI), and Linköping University (LiU). The following has been agreed:

- The ETAI is published in two editions, namely an electronic edition and a paper edition. The paper edition is published by KVA; the electronic edition by LiU through Linköping University Electronic Press.
- The paper edition is printed in a limited supply, and is distributed free of charge by the KVA to sister academies and other prestigious organizations worldwide.
- The electronic edition will be kept on-line for at least 25 years counting from the date of publication.
- Linköping University hosts the practical work for both the paper and the electronic editions.
- Both the KVA and the ECCAI nominate members to the ETAI policy committee, which oversees the organization of the ETAI and which is also the guarantee that the ETAI maintains the highest scientific standards of publication.

With this arrangement, the cost of producing the ETAI in both an electronic edition and a paper edition are considered to be so marginal that it will continue to be possible to run it as a community service and without any need for subscription fees. All three partners to the agreement share an interest in the innovative aspects of ETAI as a new form of scientific communication that makes full use of the Internet infrastructure.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences already publishes a number of traditional journals, including *Acta Mathematica* and *Acta Zoologica*. It is well known in particular for its authority to award the Nobel prizes in

Physics and in Chemistry each year. With its participation in the ETAI project, the Academy has shown its desire to combine traditional quality with innovation in the field of science.

For the ETAI, this agreement means a significant advancement with respect to formal standing and stability, but it also means that we will be able to benefit from the Academy's expertise with respect to communication in and of science.

This newsletter is issued whenever there is new news, and is sent by automatic E-mail and without charge to a list of subscribers, in plaintext format. The present postscript issue is a bona fide rendering of the same information in alternative typography. Instruction for contributors and other additional information is found at the following URL:

`http://www.ida.liu.se/ext/etai/actions/njl/`