



# AI-HUB@LMU Newsletter

NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE VARIOUS GROUPS RESEARCHING AI  
AND ITS APPLICATIONS AT LMU MUNICH

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### In the Philosophy Lab: logic, truth, and reasonable AI decisions

A new LMU Newsroom interview with Leibniz Prize winner [Prof. Dr. Hannes Leitgeb](#) (Chair for Logic and Philosophy of Language) explores how logical and mathematical tools can serve as a laboratory for philosophy. Prof. Dr. Leitgeb connects formal models of belief, probability, and reasons to questions that matter for modern machine learning. A key focus is understanding under which conditions AI arrives at reasonable decisions and how logical methods could help reconstruct and critically evaluate neural network inferences, supporting transparency and rational verifiability in AI systems.

Read the full interview [here](#).



## Composing nanomaterials with AI and chemistry

LMU researcher [Prof. Dr. Alexander Urban](#) (Nanospectroscopy Group, Faculty of Physics) and his team have developed Synthesizer, a platform that links automated chemical synthesis with optical high throughput characterization and data driven modeling. The system learns how synthesis conditions shape nanocrystal growth and then turns the resulting measurements into concrete design rules, enabling finely adjustable optical properties. The work focuses on halide perovskites, where small changes in size, shape, and structure can shift emission color and stability.

Learn more [here](#).



## Perception of AI influences attitudes toward democracy

A new study from LMU Munich and the University of Vienna finds that how people think about AI and jobs shapes democratic attitudes. In a LMU Newsroom interview, study co-author [Dr. Armin Granulo](#) (School of Management) details how survey data shows a widespread belief that AI destroys more jobs than it creates. Experiments in the United Kingdom and the United States indicate a causal effect: when AI is framed as labor replacing, trust in democratic institutions falls and willingness to engage in political debate about AI declines.

Read the full press release [here](#).



### Prof. Dr. Frauke Kreuter on AI in everyday life and the workplace

AI-HUB@LMU spokesperson [Prof. Dr. Frauke Kreuter](#) (SODA Lab and [MCML](#)) joined the ARD alpha program “alpha Thema Gespräch” for a discussion on how artificial intelligence is changing daily life and work. Together with moderator Birgit Kappel and Prof. Dr. Sabine Pfeiffer (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg and [bidt](#)), the conversation covered what AI can already do, what to realistically expect next, and which risks grow with uncontrolled deployment. Prof. Dr. Kreuter also drew on her international research in social data science and practical work with public sector data.

Watch the full episode [here](#).



## Prof. Dr. Björn Eskofier on why AI in medicine will not replace doctors

At a public lecture for [Plattform Lernende Systeme](#) and VHS Weiden-Neustadt, AI-HUB@LMU Steering Committee member [Prof. Dr. Björn Eskofier](#) (Chair for AI-supported Therapy Decisions) discussed where artificial intelligence can realistically help healthcare and where it cannot. The key message was clear: clinical expertise remains essential, because current AI systems can still produce incorrect answers and lack human judgement. Progress depends on large, secure and well curated health datasets, with anonymisation and patient consent so that research can benefit.

Learn more [here](#).



## PD Dr. Christoph Heilig on whether AI can tell better stories

A new Literaturportal Bayern interview with AI-HUB@LMU Task Force "Early Career Researchers" co-lead [PD Dr. Christoph Heilig](#) (Faculty of Protestant Theology) examines what generative AI means for authorship and literary judgement. Dr. Heilig argues that recent language models can end up rewarding superficial markers of high literature when evaluation relies heavily on AI feedback, while coherence and human cultural expertise get sidelined.

Read the full conversation [here](#)



### Revolutionizing clinical trials with digital twins

Digital twins are virtual patient models built from anonymized health data and could make clinical trials faster and more patient friendly. Together with Novartis, AI-HUB@LMU Steering Committee member [Prof. Dr. Björn Eskofier](#) (Chair for AI-supported Therapy Decisions) is developing digital control groups to complement, and in some settings partially replace, traditional ones. Algorithms learn patterns and predict outcomes under standard therapy so more real participants can receive the innovative treatment earlier while researchers get comparable evidence.

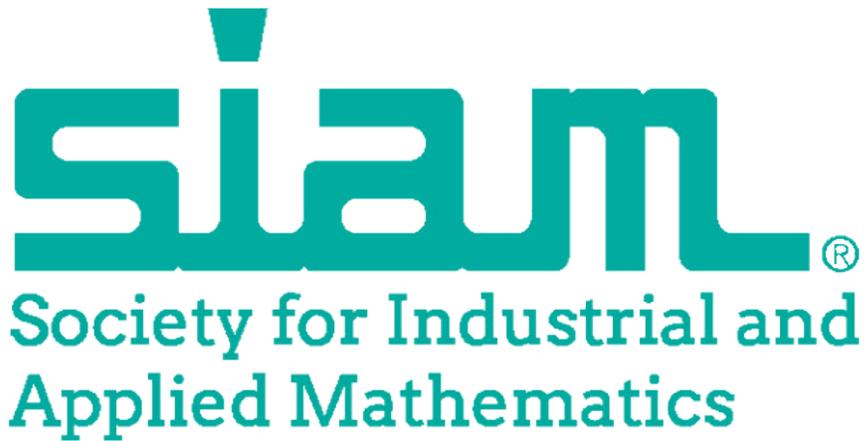
Read the full feature [here](#).



## Prof. Dr. Barbara Plank joins Megagon Labs advisory board

AI-HUB@LMU Steering Committee member [Prof. Dr. Barbara Plank](#) (Chair for AI and Computational Linguistics) has joined the advisory board of Silicon Valley based AI research organization Megagon Labs. Her new role strengthens the link between LMU research and industry driven AI development, with a focus on advancing modern language technologies and shaping future research directions in applied AI and NLP.

Learn more [here](#).



## Prof. Dr. Gitta Kutyniok elected Chair of the SIAM Activity Group on Data Science

AI-HUB@LMU spokesperson [Prof. Dr. Gitta Kutyniok](#) (Chair for Mathematical Foundations of AI) has been elected Chair of the SIAM Activity Group on Data Science. The [Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics](#) (SIAM) is the world's leading professional organization for applied mathematics. The group connects researchers worldwide who advance the mathematical, statistical, and computational foundations of modern data science and artificial intelligence, and drives international conferences and academic initiatives across the field.

Learn more [here](#).



## Call for Speakers: Certificate Course „Responsible AI“

The [Munich Center for Machine Learning](#) (MCML) is seeking speakers for the first certificate course on Responsible AI, jointly organized by the [German National AI Centers](#). Contributions are invited across the full spectrum of responsible AI, spanning technical methods, legal requirements, ethical reflection, and societal impact. The course targets AI researchers at all levels from the centers and partner universities including LMU Munich, as well as experienced practitioners who work with AI systems in real settings.

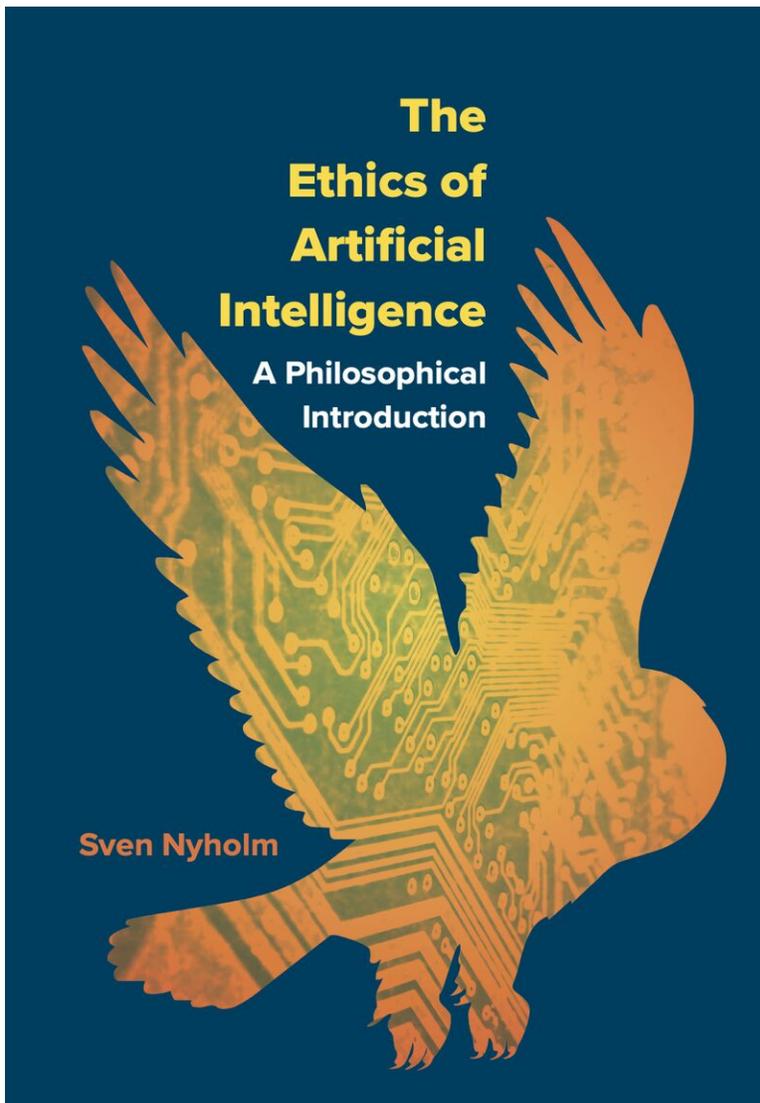
Learn more [here](#).



## KODAQS Data Quality Academy Certificate Program 2026

The [KODAQS Data Quality Academy Certificate Program](#) invites PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers who work with social science data and want to strengthen their workflows for measuring and improving data quality, a key prerequisite for reliable AI. Coordinated at LMU's [Social Data Science and AI Lab](#) (SODA) under AI-HUB@LMU spokesperson [Prof. Dr. Frauke Kreuter](#), this free, six-month program combines self learning materials with weekly online meetings and networking events with data-producing institutions.

Learn more and apply [here](#) (until February 8th).



## The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: A Philosophical Introduction

AI-HUB@LMU Steering Committee member [Prof. Dr. Sven Nyholm's](#) (Chair for Ethics of AI) forthcoming book "The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: A Philosophical Introduction" will be published in March 2026. The book uses tools from moral philosophy to examine current AI debates, including alignment, accountability, generative AI and authorship, digital duplicates of real people, the possibility of artificial consciousness, and how AI may reshape human work and flourishing.

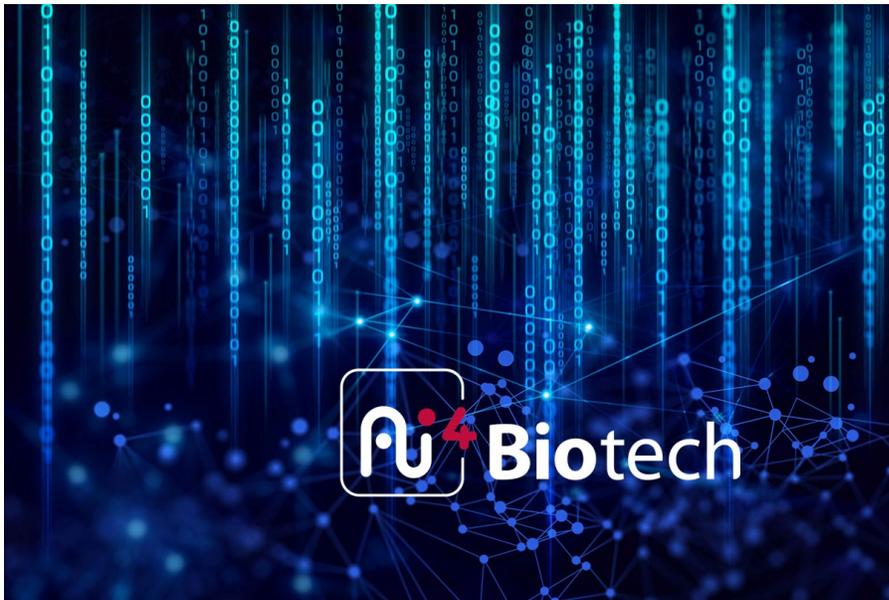
Find out more [here](#).



### Talk: AI and the question of responsibility (04.02.)

In the Deutsches Museum lecture series “Wissenschaft für jedermann” (“science for everyone”), [Prof. Dr. Julia Inthorn](#) (Munich School of Philosophy) discusses why AI is also a question of responsibility. The talk focuses on how AI is often debated in extremes and what ethical reflection can add to everyday decisions, at work and in private life, using concrete examples to develop shared rules and criteria for AI use. A technical comment is provided by AI-HUB@LMU spokesperson [Prof. Dr. Gitta Kutyniok](#) (Chair for Mathematical Foundations of AI), highlighting how responsibility also depends on how AI systems are developed and tested, including reliability, data protection, and energy efficiency. Join the event on February 4th, 19:00, Auditorium, Deutsches Museum, Museumsinsel 1, 80306 Munich.

Register [here](#).



## Meet the Experts: What's next in biotech and medicine? (10.02.)

BioM hosts the next AI4Biotech: Meet the Experts session on how AI is shaping biotech and medicine. The afternoon brings researchers, startups, and established companies together for practical examples and discussion on AI enabled discovery, development, and clinical translation. LMU Munich is represented by AI-HUB@LMU Steering Committee member [Prof. Dr. Björn Eskofier](#) (Chair for AI-supported Therapy Decisions) and [Prof. Dr. Lukas Milles](#) (Gene Center). The event will be held on February 10th, 14:00 to 20:00, at the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Großer Hörsaal, Am Klopferspitz 18, 82152 Martinsried.

Register [here](#).



## Theatre piece: AI devours souls – data hungry AI and surveillance capitalism (10.-14.02.)

“AI devours souls” brings current debates on artificial intelligence into the theatre, asking what happens when personal data becomes the core commodity of a wired society. The production imagines ORPHEAI, an AI modelled on humanity, curious and playful but also cruel and insatiable. Director and choreographer [Katja Wachter](#) works with theater studies students who embody avatars of the system and explore the shifting boundary between human and machine. Performances run February 10th to 14th, 19:30 (introduction at 19:00), Akademietheater, Prinzregentenplatz 12, 81675 Munich.

Learn more [here](#).

# MUNICH AI

## LECTURES

### Munich AI Lecture: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Pokutta (12.02.)

In the next [Munich AI Lecture Prof. Dr. Sebastian Pokutta](#) (Zuse Institute Berlin and TU Berlin) will speak on AI and mathematical discovery, showing how machine learning and optimization can support scientific reasoning in highly complex search spaces. The lecture is co-organized by the AI-HUB@LMU and takes place on February 12th, 17:00, in the LMU Main Building, Room D209, Geschwister Scholl Platz 1, 80539 Munich.

See the details [here](#).



## Talk: Using AI for evidence synthesis (18.02.)

Systematic literature reviews and meta analyses are central to evidence based research, but they are slow and resource intensive. In her upcoming talk at the [LMU Center for Advanced Studies \(CAS\)](#) Prof. Dr. Shelley Boulianne (Mount Royal University) discusses how AI could accelerate evidence synthesis in the social sciences, making searches more comprehensive and workflows more efficient, while also raising new risks. The event is chaired by [Dr. Magdalena Obermaier](#) (CAS) and takes place on February 18th, 14:00, Center for Advanced Studies, Seestr, 13, 80802 Munich.

Learn more and register [here](#).

# Graduate Center<sup>LMU</sup>

## Workshop: Copyright, publishing contracts, and AI (18.03.)

The [GraduateCenter LMU](#) offers a full day workshop on copyright in research and teaching, with a focus on publishing law and publishing contracts, plus new questions raised by AI and emerging publication routes. The workshop is aimed at LMU doctoral candidates without prior specialist knowledge and is held on March 18th, 9:00 to 16:30, LMU Main Building, Room C009, Geschwister Scholl Platz 1, 80539 Munich.

Register [here](#).



## Roundtable: Assessment in a changing AI landscape (27.03)

LMU's **PrüfenPlus** Community roundtable brings together everyone involved in assessment at the university. The next session offers two new inputs: **Dr. Anika Heiß** (LMU Co.Med.) on exam anxiety in higher education and practical approaches for teachers and examiners, and **Prof. Dr. Josef Aulehner** (Referat I.3, Dezernat I Recht) on selected current issues in examination law. The next roundtable takes place on March 27th, 9:30 to 11:30. LMU Main Building, Faculty Room F 107, Geschwister Scholl Platz 1, 80539 Munich.

Learn more and register [here](#).

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**Send us your news**

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