

So What? The 10 Things to Implement

Companion to V1.23.8 of Philosophy, Cognitive Science, and Policy: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Generative AI from Wittgenstein, Lewis, Dennett, and Nagel.

A one-page practical checklist

1. Name the language game, monitor drift

Declare task, role, scope, and permitted vocabulary per use-case. Track stance / genre drift and accommodation effects; review quarterly.

2. Separate retrieval from revision

Retrieval returns facts; a distinct step reconciles conflicts, retracts presuppositions, and updates commitments. Capture what changed and why.

3. Expose and confirm conversation state

Show a live assumptions & constraints pane. Require explicit confirmation when the system adds, removes, or reprioritizes assumptions.

4. Use the “as-if” stance - ban mind-talk

Treat agent-like language as predictive shorthand. Prohibit claims about beliefs, feelings, or intentions in UI, docs, and training.

5. Bound simulated empathy; route high-affect work

Label simulations. In care, legal, or dignity-affecting contexts, restrict personas and require human review before action.

6. Evaluate coherence, not just correctness

Test contradiction avoidance across turns, retention of corrections, presupposition repair, refusal quality, and paraphrase stability - per use-case.

7. Red-team norms, not only outputs

Attack role drift, policy erosion, and silent assumption changes mid-dialogue. Log “score changes” as incidents; remediate guardrails.

8. Be audit-ready by default

Log retrieval sources / timestamps, assumption approvals, refusal rationales, and decision ownership so accountability is reconstructible.

9. Train operators in three moves

Pick the right language game; confirm or roll back assumptions; maintain “as-if” discipline. Provide a concise playbook and failure-mode examples.

10. Bake requirements into procurement & policy

Require exportable conversation state, assumption APIs, stance limits, per-use-case evaluations, refusal / appeal routes, and evidence logging. Map to your standards.

Applies to V1.23.8 • January 2026 • mstoyanovich.com

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