



**Caltech/MIT
Voting Technology
Project**

AGENDA: VTP Vendor Workshop, 3.13.07

The goal of this small and informal workshop is to bring together key members of the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project, a few representatives of other academic research projects, and the voting technology industry, to engage in discussions identifying the important questions in voting technology, and to begin a process of building trust and collaboration.

When the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project was initiated, we were surprised to find that the voting technology industry was relatively small and that there was not a great deal of technological development occurring. Since 2000, we have also found that there is simply too little communication between research and industry and government in the area of voting technology, and unfortunately in some cases adversarial relationships have evolved.

The ground rules for this one-day workshop are simple: we expect participants to engage in a thoughtful discussion about the productive role of voting technology research, past, present and future. As academic researchers, hosting a workshop on one of our campuses, we will facilitate an open and positive discussion.

From the industry perspective, we expect to hear about process, policy, forensics and technology, issues that within current voting approaches are not yet resolved, not promotion of specific technologies or products. From the academic perspective, we wish to talk about the research we have done, and that which we hope to do; not criticizing existing voting technologies or products from specific vendors. We, as hosts of this workshop, will work to structure the discussion to maintain these expectations, while exploring the fascinating questions involved in building better voting systems for all.

ATTENDEES

» Michael Alvarez [Caltech, VTP]	» Neil McClure [Hart InterCivic]
» Jonathan Katz [Caltech, VTP]	» Rob Resuali [AutoMARK]
» Melissa Slein [Caltech, VTP]	» Ben Adida [Harvard]
» Erik Antonsson [Caltech, Northrop Grumman, VTP]	» David Wagner [UC Berkeley]
» Rod Kiewiet [Caltech, VTP]	» Richard Niemi [Univ of Rochester]
» Ted Selker [MIT, VTP]	» Paul Gronke [Reed College]
» Ron Rivest [MIT, VTP]	» Jamie Clark [OASIS]
» Sarah Wood [MIT, VTP]	» Alan Dechart [Open Voting Consortium]
» Michelle Shafer [Sequoia]	» David Chaum [Punchscan]
» Ed Smith [Sequoia]	» Chris Backert [eGovernment Consulting]
» Ian Piper [Diebold]	» Richard Hawkins [Actual Vote Systems]
» Bertrand Haas [Pitney Bowes]	» Ping Shao [Actual Vote Systems]

Location: Beckman Institute Auditorium, Caltech campus

Morning Session: 8:00 – 11:30 am

VTP PIs and other academic researchers each identify and discuss their concerns/issues relating to current voting technology and how they see collaborations with vendors could improve elections, relating to:

- » Interoperability
- » Usability/accessibility
- » Auditability
- » Future technologies: pollbooks, electronic databases
- » Reliability
- » Making auditability useful
- » Security: chain of custody etc
- » Technologies developed by VTP

7:30 – 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 8:30 am

Introduction of Workshop and of all attendees, Ted Selker [MIT, VTP] & Michael Alvarez [Caltech, VTP]

8:30 – 9:10 am: Voting Technology Research Methods

Erik Antonsson [Caltech, Northrop Grumman]

Richard Niemi [University of Rochester]

9:10– 9:30 am: Early Voting

Paul Gronke [Reed College]

9:30 – 9:50 am: Accessibility/Usability

Ted Selker [MIT, VTP]

9:50 – 10:10 am

Break (coffee, snacks)

10:10 – 10:50 am: Security

Ron Rivest [MIT, VTP]: Security of voting machines; prevoting

Ben Adida [Harvard University]: Upgrading to cryptographic auditing

David Wagner [University of California, Berkeley]: Trustworthy Voting Machines: techniques that can be used to improve the security, reliability, and transparency of voting machines and enhance our ability to gain confidence in them.

10:50 – 11:30 am: Auditing & Forensics

Jonathan Katz [Caltech, VTP]: Recounts and Auditing

Rod Kiewiet [Caltech, VTP]: Incident Reports and Improving Election Administration

11:30 – 1:00 pm

Lunch, Citrus Bistro (on campus)

Afternoon Session: 1:00 – 5:30 pm

Vendors each identify their concerns/issues relating to current voting technology and what academics might do to be productive collaborators in improving the voting technology and ultimately the election process and/or specific research questions that they see as critical for the next 3-5 years (technology, implementation of technology, the policy regimes i.e. testing and certification)

1:00 – 1:20 pm

Michelle Shafer, Ed Smith [Sequoia Voting Systems]: open-source voting

1:20 – 1:40 pm

Neil [Hart Intercivic]: TBA

1:40 – 2:00 pm

Chris Backert [eGovernment Consulting]: Remote voting technology: the need for a comparative analysis of remote voting channels and how the security and reliability of these channels might be improved.

2:00 – 2:10 pm

Short Break

2:10 – 2:30 pm

David Chaum [Punchscan]: VSPR and vocomp.org—neutral industry-wide initiatives; punch-scan system—“The Whole Enchilada” (holistic approach)

2:30 - 2:50 pm

Ian Piper [Diebold]: specific technological issues needing to be researched

2:50 – 3:10 pm

Break

3:10 – 3:30 pm

Jamie Clark [OASIS]: election mark up language/use as standards for voting

3:30 – 3:50 pm

Bertrand Haas [Pitney Bowes]: voting by mail

3:50 – 4:00 pm

Short Break

4:00 – 5:30 pm

Brainstorming Session, Michael Alvarez, moderator

-Identify two most important problems in research agenda

-How to structure research, direct collaborations and other firms, existing models (Erik Antonsson)

-Those types of technologies vendors identified as effective/useful

7 pm - Dinner

Il Fornaio Restaurant, Old Town Pasadena