NIST/EAC Future of Voting Systems Symposium – February 26-28, 2013
Keynote: "An Overview of the Election Technology Landscape"

R. Michael Alvarez received his B.A. from Carleton College, and his Ph.D. from Duke University, both in political science. He has taught at the California Institute of Technology his entire career, focusing on elections, voting behavior, election technology, and research methodologies. He has written or edited a number of books (most recently, *Evaluating Elections: A Handbook of Methods and Standards*) and scores of academic articles and reports.
He has studied elections throughout the world, including recent research in Argentina and Estonia, and has worked closely with public officials in many locations to improve their elections.   Much of his recent work has examined the use of new technologies to improve the accuracy and accessibility of the electoral process.   Alvarez is one of the few researchers in the world who has examined in detail both the problems facing many voters with special needs, and how new technologies can help mitigate those problems. Examples of this research are his 2004 book on Internet voting (*Point, Click and Vote*) and his more recent 2008 study of electronic voting (*Electronic Elections*).

Alvarez's research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts and JEHT Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and the John Irvine Foundation.   He was named to the Scientific American 50 in 2004 for his research on voting technologies. Alvarez is a Fellow of the Society for Political Methodology, co-editor of the journal *Political Analysis*, and co-director of the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project.