Opening Remarks: “Framing the Discussion on the Future of Voting Systems”

**Brian Hancock** has served on the staff of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) since its establishment under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) in 2003. As Director the Testing and Certification Division, Mr. Hancock’s programmatic areas of responsibility include overseeing the EAC’s efforts in testing and certifying voting systems, working with the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) of NIST to accredit independent testing laboratories, and developing and maintaining the EAC’s Voluntary Voting System Guidelines.

From 1984 to 2003, Mr. Hancock served on the staff of the Federal Election Commission (FEC). For the last thirteen of those years, he served as an Elections Research Specialist in the FEC’s Office of Election Administration. In addition to Mr. Hancock’s primary duties of providing assistance and guidance to State and local election administrators throughout the United States, he also edited The FEC Journal of Election Administration, and authored several essays describing the foundations, development and organization of electoral bodies in the America; and co-authored Implementing the National Voter Registration Act of 1993: Requirements, Issues, Approaches, and Examples. Mr. Hancock spoke about the American political process to political figures, election officials and journalists from the many emerging democracies in Africa, Eastern Europe and Asia. Through the auspices of The Asia Foundation, Mr. Hancock visited Mongolia in 1997 as an advisor to the Great Hural (Parliament) and lent his expertise in drafting extensive revisions to the electoral management law of that country.