ABSTRACT: This panel will focus on answering the question: “Why am I building/did I build my own voting system?” we are seeking the reasons behind the decision, as well as a description of what you have planned, built or implemented to date. This discussion may include topics such as: COTS, interoperability, software-only systems, and auto-personalization.

Moderator: Mr. Matt Masterson currently serves as the Deputy Elections Administrator for the Ohio Secretary of State. In this role Mr. Masterson is responsible for voting system certification efforts by the Secretary of State’s office including being the liaison to the Ohio Board of Voting Machine Examiners. Additionally, Mr. Masterson is in charge of Ohio’s effort to develop an online voter registration database and online ballot delivery for military and overseas voters.

Prior to his position in Ohio, Mr. Masterson was Deputy Director for the EAC’s Voting System Testing and Certification Program. In this role Mr. Masterson’s primary responsibility was the creation of the next iteration of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG). Mr. Masterson worked with the EAC’s Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in the creation of the TGDC’s recommended Voluntary Voting System Guidelines. Mr. Masterson managed the day to day business of the EAC’s laboratory accreditation program including the creation of the EAC’s Voting System Test Laboratory Program Manual. Prior this position Mr. Masterson joined the EAC in 2006 as a Special Assistant/Counsel to Chairman Paul DeGregorio.

Dean Logan is the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for Los Angeles County, California – the nation’s largest, most diverse and complex local election jurisdiction with 4.5 million registered voters and over 500 political districts. Prior to coming to Los Angeles County, Mr. Logan served as Director of Records, Elections and Licensing Services in King County, Washington (metropolitan Seattle/Puget Sound), as the Washington State Elections Director and as the elected County Clerk in Kitsap County, Washington.

Mr. Logan serves on the Executive Board for the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) and actively participates on the Steering Committee for the Future of California Elections initiative sponsored by the James T. Irvine Foundation and the Pew Center on the States’ Voter Registration Modernization and Performance Index for Elections working groups. His past work includes serving on the California Secretary of State’s VoteCal Statewide Voter Registration System Advisory Committee and on the National Election Center’s Task Forces on Education & Training and Election Reform. In 2007, Mr. Logan served as an international elections observer in Morocco on behalf of the National Democratic Institute (NDI).

County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir has always been inspired by public service. Her interest led her to obtain a Masters Degree from the LBJ School of Public Affairs and ultimately to run for public office. Since her election as County Clerk in 1986, Dana has devoted herself to bringing high ethical standards, effective and cost efficient management practices, the benefits of new technology, and high quality customer service to the office of the County Clerk. The Clerk’s Office has a wide range of responsibilities including the conduct of elections; the filing and preservation of real property records; and the management of civil, probate, and misdemeanor court documents.
Steve Trout currently serves as Oregon’s Director of Elections, a position he has held since 2009. He has 14 years experience in election law and administration. Prior to becoming Oregon’s Director of Elections, Steve worked in the private sector for 5 years assisting local governments with compliance with election laws, including HAVA and the Voting Rights Act, as well as with election administration and training. Prior to that he served as Senior Election Counsel to the California Secretary of State and as Assistant Registrar of Voters in San Bernardino County, CA. He has served as counsel to the California Voting Modernization Board, and has taught continuing legal education seminars on election law and HAVA to state and county counsel from throughout the country. Steve has defended election procedures in both state and Federal courts, including the US Supreme Court. Steve holds a Juris Doctor in Law, Bachelor of Science in Managerial Economics, and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, all from the University of California - Davis.

Whitney Quesenbery works a user experience researcher and plain language expert improving the usability of web sites and other technology products. With the Usability in Civic Life project, she leads projects for election officials and advocates to improve the usability of ballots and other election materials. She is the grant coordinator for the ITIF Accessible Voting Technology Initiative, funded by the EAC. Her work on usability and accessible standards includes serving on the EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee and on Access Board’s advisory committee to refresh the “Section 508” accessibility regulations. She is the author of two books, Storytelling for User Experience and Global UX: Design and research in a connected world.