

# The Kudzu Effect

The Kudzu Effect is named after a parasitic, rapidly growing vine that engulfs and suffocates the life beneath it. The life of a democracy is embodied by free, honest and verifiable elections. In 2008, over 50% of our votes will be counted on touch screen machines without a paper trail. **Why?** Beginning in the Reagan years, certain election officials colluded with voting machine vendors to "reform" our Nation's elections. They created vendor-friendly testing of voting machines, election reform commissions, HAVA, the EAC, advisory panels, committees, task forces and organizations galore! We've pulled back the kudzu and tracked their involvement to bring you a list of players and the games they are playing.

"THE PLAYERS"	1 (FEC Adv)	2 (Election Ctr)	3 (IFES/GEO)	4 (FEC VSS)	5 (CERA)	6 (NASED)	7 (NASS)	8 (FEC Adv)	9 (Const. Proj.)	10 (CT/MIT)	11 (IFES/CERUS)	12 (Election Ctr)	13 (NCES&R)	14 (ERIP)	15 (NCSLRTF)	16 (Carter-Ford)	17 (HACERH)	18 (Senate)	19 (IEEE)	20 (NASED)	21 (AAAS)	22 (EAC CAP)	23 (EAC TGC)	24 Current
R. Doug Lewis		★	★		★	★	★		★	★		★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	Executive Director, The Election Center
Tom Wilkey	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★			★	★	★	★					★	★		★	★	Executive Director, EAC
Ernest Hawkins	★	★	★	★	★			★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★						★			Director, Election Center Consulting
Conny McCormack		★	★		★					★	★	★			★	★	★				★	★		Left LA County Registrar's Office 2007
Donetta Davidson	★	★	★					★			★			★	★					★		★	★	EAC Commissioner
Gary McIntosh	★	★			★	★	★	\$ VENDOR 2001							★	★	★							Consultant, McIntosh Elections
Brit Williams			★		★	★		★							★					★	★	★	★	Consultant
Penelope Bonsall	★			★	★	★													★	★	★	★		EAC
Paul Craft					★		★		★						★				★	★		★	★	Consultant, Freeman, Craft, McGregor Group
Alice Miller		★	★							★					★							★	★	Washington, D.C. Elections Director
Roy Saltman			★	★				★	★						★						★			Consultant
Hans von Spakovsky			★				★		★								★	★				★		FEC Commissioner
Stephen Berger							★												★	★	★	★		TEM Consulting
Tony Sirvello	★		★				★	★														★		Executive Director, IACREOT
Paul DeGregorio			★																★			★	★	Consultant, Everyone Counts
Helen Purcell		★										★										★	★	Maricopa County Recorder (AZ)
Richard Soudriette			★					★							★				★					President, IFES 1988 - 2007
Emmett Fremaux	★	★		★		\$ VENDOR Accenture 2001-2005																		AMTRAK, VP of Customer Service
Gary Greenhalgh	★	★	\$ VENDOR Shoup 1987								MicroVote 1989				★	ES&S 2000-Present								Vice-President, ES&S
Beverly Kaufman		★		★																		★		Harris County Clerk Houston, TX
Deborah Seiler		★		★	\$ VENDOR Sequoia 1991-2000											Diebold 2000-2002								San Diego County Registrar of Voters

## Commissions & Committees & Conferences

- FEC Advisory Panel 1984 – 2000** Election Officials advise on the administration of federal elections.
- The Election Center 1985 – Present** "Nonprofit, non-partisan" professional organization for election officials and vendors promoting paperless voting machines.
- IFES 1987 – present** "Nonpartisan, nonprofit" organization provides technical assistance (voting machines) to "strengthen transitional democracies around the world." **Global Electoral Organization (GEO)** "A unique opportunity for senior election officials and democracy practitioners to gather together."
- FEC VSS Advisory Panel 1990** Develops first national standards for punchcard, marksense & direct recording electronic voting systems for Federal Election Commission.
- Election Center CERA "Educators" 1994 - present** Certified Election Registration Administrator training program for election officials.
- NASED VSS Board 1997-98** National Association of State Election Directors takes over updating voting systems standards from the FEC and the certifying of labs to test the voting machines. (Note: EC serves as "Secretariat")
- NASS Task Force 2000** National Association of Secretaries of State 10 person panel calls for election reform after Florida 2000 election.
- FEC Advisory Panel 2000 - Present** Election Officials work with the Federal Election Commission to influence the conduct of elections in 2002 and 2004.
- Constitution Project 2001** Bipartisan, nonprofit organization sponsors forum on election reform to explore areas of agreement among organizations & individuals.
- Cal Tech/MIT Voting Technology Conference 2001** Academics, election officials, elected officials, vendors examine the mechanics of elections.
- IFES/CERUS Steering Committee 2001** "Collecting Election Resources in the US to aid election reform," collaborates with NASS, NASED, IACREOT, Election Center.
- Election Center National Task Force on Election Reform 2001**
- National Commission on Election Standards and Reform 2001**, sponsored by National Association of Counties & National Association of County Recorders & Clerks to study election problems and make recommendations for improvement.
- Election Reform Information Project 2001** An overview of legislation and other election reform progress since 2000 "hanging chad" debacle in Florida.
- National Commission of State Legislatures Reform Task Force 2001** Looks at state election laws and procedures to "recommend sound election practices."
- Carter-Ford Election Reform Conference 2001** High profile testimony of experts, (including vendors) and public leaders offers a "bipartisan analysis to Congress, the administration and the American people." Paves the way for HAVA.
- House Administration Committee Election Reform Hearings 2001** Run by Rep. Bob Ney (now imprisoned), who also hosted the Federal Tech Expo of voting machine technologies for Congress and co-wrote HAVA, which mandates touch screen machines.
- Senate Committee Election Reform Hearings 2001** Governmental Affairs Commerce, Science & Transportation Committees hear testimony about election reform.
- IEEE "Invited Experts" 2002** Election officials/administrators provide feedback on voting equipment standards developed by the Institute for Electrical & Electronic Engineers.
- NASED VSS Board 2000-04** National Association of State Election Directors updates previous 1998 voting systems standards and certifies labs to test the voting machines.
- American Association for the Advancement of Science** Workshop on election standards and technology 2002 with election officials, vendors and computer scientists.
- Election Assistance Commission and Advisory Board 2004** Four-person commission created under Help America Vote Act (2003) to disperse federal \$\$ for machine upgrades, create new system standards, and provide guidance to election officials. EAC Advisory Board selects Executive Director, reviews voting standards, provides expertise.
- Election Assistance Commission Technical Guidelines Development Committee** Assists the EAC with the development of voluntary voting system guidelines.