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Subject Rush Holt Suggested Nominees to TGDC

Paul-

Along with the NIST voting team, I reviewed the names and biographies submitted by Congressman Holt's Office for nomination to the four "open" positions on the Technical Guidelines Development Committee. Avi Rubin, Barbara Simons and Michael Alvarez are all extremely qualified for the TGDC. In fact, during our deliberations, the NIST voting team considered each of these individuals for inclusion on our final list. However, there were important reasons for choosing the individuals we did. Rather than criticize these fine nominees, any of whom would bring expertise to the TGDC, I will list the criteria for NIST's final selection of nominees:

1. Technical Competence in Standards Development Processes,
2. Open Minded and Unbiased View points. No pre-set agendas,
3. Global view of security and usability issues related to voting systems and voting equipment
4. Unique "lifetime/career" experiences and expertise not available from other appointed TGDC members

I would also note that like Michael Alvarez, NIST nominee Ron Rivest was also a co-author of the Cal tech/MIT report. We at NIST stand by our nominees as the strongest candidates to meet our strict criteria for inclusion on the TGDC.

I hope this description of our TGDC nominee evaluation process will assist the EAC in the selection of the four "open" positions. We will shortly provide you with a "final four" list from the original list of six individuals. We have broadened our selection to include women who were on our original list.

I will send you some talking points for the March 23rd EAC meeting tomorrow morning. I am a bit swamped today having just returned from leave.

Regards

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