Voting System Vulnerabilities

Join us on Thursday 3/29 from 6-8 pm at the University of Washington HUB for a timely discussion on voting system vulnerabilities. Secure elections are necessary for a free and fair democracy, and the state of Washington is not immune from the national concerns over possible avenues for election interference. Washington received a "C" grade in the recent Center for American Progress Report: 'Election Security in All 50 States'. What are voting system vulnerabilities, where is our state falling short, and what can Washingtonians do to advocate for improved election security practices? The evening will be co-hosted by the UW Center for Information Assurance & Cybersecurity and the League of Women Voters of Washington.

Featured speakers include Professor Matt Bishop, Department of Computer Science at UC Davis, whose expertise includes cybersecurity and voting systems. His presentation will focus on the inherent system vulnerabilities in voting technologies and processes, including online voting and email return of ballots.

The Election Security Chair of the League of Women Voters of Washington, Kirstin Mueller, will lead a discussion on current voting systems used in Washington State highlighting security concerns specific to ballot return methods and post-election audits.

Additional speakers and panelists to be determined.

Parking is $5 in the Padelford Lot. Husky Union Building (HUB) Room 250.

About the main speaker: Matt Bishop received his Ph.D. in computer science from Purdue University, where he specialized in computer security, in 1984. He was a research scientist at the Research Institute of Advanced Computer Science and was on the faculty at Dartmouth College before joining the Department of Computer Science at the University of California at Davis. Professor Bishop’s main research area is the analysis of vulnerabilities in computer systems, including modeling them, building tools to detect vulnerabilities, and ameliorating or eliminating them. He has examined electronic voting systems and the way in which they are used. He was a co-Principal Investigator for the California Top-to-Bottom Review of certified systems used in California, and also participated in several other reviews of e-voting systems. His textbook, "Computer Security: Art and Science" is widely used in upper division and graduate classes on computer security at academic institutions throughout the world.