Research Alliance for Accessible Voting (RAAV)

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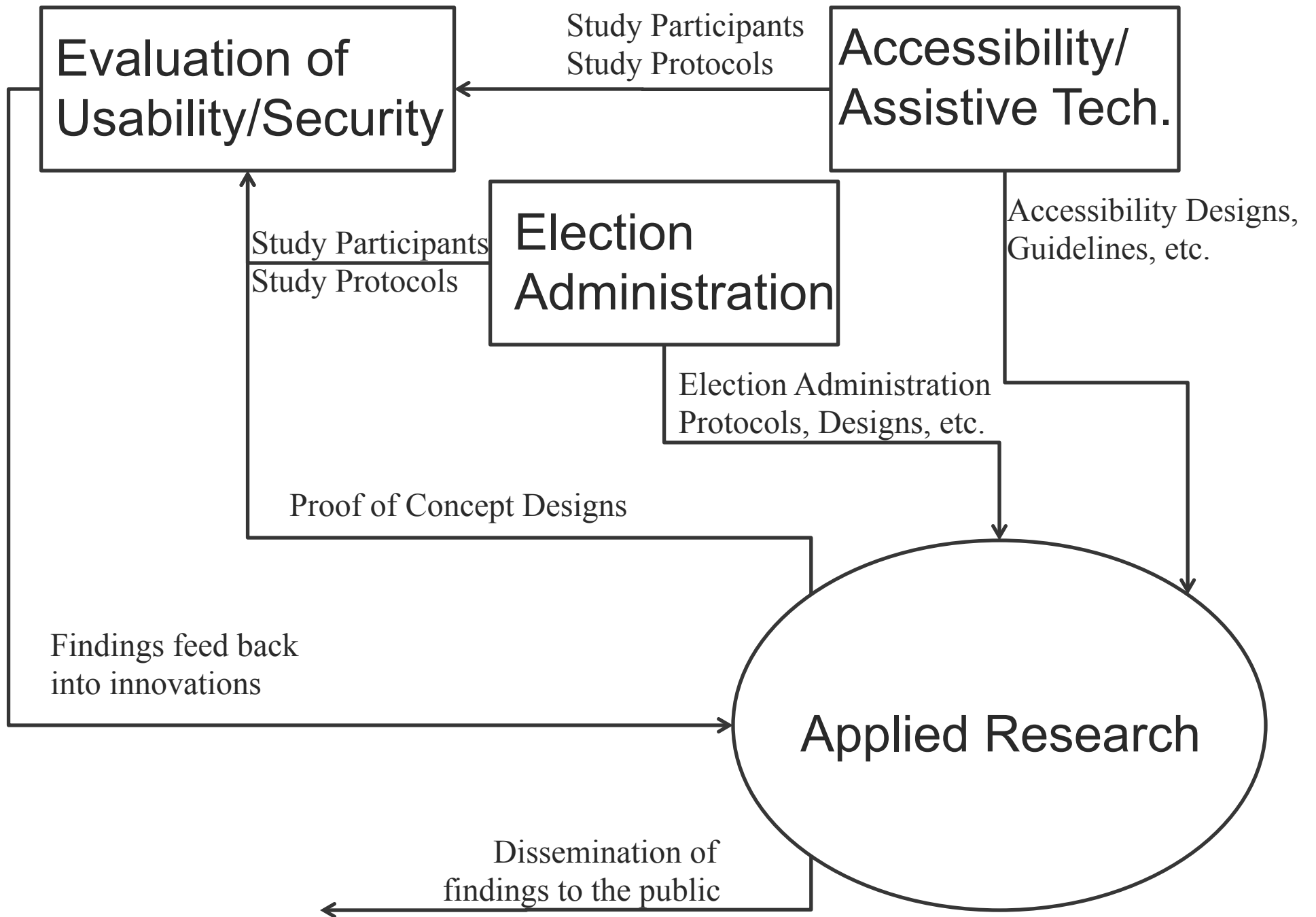http://www.clemson.edu/computing

RAAV Mission Statement

- The Research Alliance for Accessible Voting (RAAV) was established to advance the state of elections and voting through applied research, development, evaluation, dissemination and implementation of concepts and technologies that increase access to and participation in democracy.

RAAV Aims

1. Test the promising technologies and approaches developed by RAAV with several disability communities, including, but not limited to the blind, deaf, wounded warriors, the aging, etc.

2. Identify new accessibility solutions (meaning technologies and approaches);

RAAV Aims

3. Engage the voting manufacturers in RAAV activities (design, development, testing, integration and deployment)

4. Dissemination of results through public demonstrations of technologies and approaches, through the RAAV website, and through scholarly conferences and journals.

Evaluation of Usability/Security

Accessibility/ Assistive Tech.

Study Participants Study Protocols

Election Administration

Study Participants Study Protocols

Accessibility Designs, Guidelines, etc.

Election Administration Protocols, Designs, etc.

Proof of Concept Designs

Findings feed back into innovations

Applied Research

Dissemination of findings to the public

RAAV Team Members

Clemson University

- Juan E. Gilbert, PhD
  - HCC Lab
    - 6-10 PhD students
  - Administrative and grant support
  - Applied Research Team

- Precinct Voting
  - Prime III
    - Software Independent

Clemson University

- Vote by Mail

- Vote by Phone or Pad
  - COTS

Carnegie Mellon University
Silicon Valley

- Ted Selker, PhD
  - Postdoc
  - Graduate research assistant
  - Administrative and grant support
  - Applied Research Team

Carnegie Mellon University
Silicon Valley

- Audio ballot designs
  - Voice changes, earcons, 3D, etc.
  - Integrates with Prime III

- Low Error Voting Interface (LEVI)
  - Integrated with Prime III

Center for Accessible Information

- Lynne Tamor, PhD
  - Technology staff
  - Accessibility and Assistive Technology Team

  - Harnessing the power of the Internet to provide people with developmental disabilities the information and resources to exercise informed choice to live self-determined and fulfilling lives in their communities...

Center for Accessible Information

1. Design, build, and maintain the RAAV website (W3C/ WAI standards, WCAG 2.0, and WebAIM interpretations of §508; accessible language, simple navigation, icons/pictures, and text-to-speech)

2. Create accessible language manuals and materials ("plain", "clear & simple", or "accessible" language)

3. Test the reliability of using on-line translation applications to translate voting-related materials into other languages

Association of
Assistive Technology Act Programs

- **Willie Gunther and Diane Golden**
  - Extensive assistive technology experience
  - Accessibility and Assistive Technology Team

- National organization representing network of federally funded State Assistive Technology Act Programs (one in each state and territory.)
  - State AT Programs provide full range of AT services including device demonstration and training on all types of assistive technology.

Association of
Assistive Technology Act Programs

- **Equipment Demonstration and Training**
  - Develop/implement pilot projects that provide demonstrations and training designed to familiarize people with all types of disabilities with the accessible voting system used by their voting jurisdiction.
  - Searchable video demonstrations

- Paraquad
  - Michelle Bishop and Amanda Beals
  - Accessibility and Assistive Technology Team
- Empowering people with disabilities to live independently through choice and opportunity
- One of the oldest and largest Centers for Independent Living in the country
  - Based in St. Louis, Missouri

- **Tennessee Disability Coalition**
  - Carol Westlake, Courtney Jenkins-Atnip, Melanie Bull
  - Accessibility and Assistive Technology Team
- Promotes full participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of life
- A coalition of organizations and individuals throughout the state (based in Nashville, Tennessee)
- A strong history of fighting for voter access and voting rights of people with disabilities

- Assess the impact of more in-depth, solution-focused training and accurate, user-friendly training materials for poll workers regarding accessible voting options

- Assess the needs of people with disabilities, and disability etiquette for interacting with voters

- Collaborate with targeted local election authorities in Missouri and Tennessee to develop and pilot training materials as well as training techniques for poll workers designed to increase retention on Election Day

- Develop and publicly release suggested materials and best practices based on pilot results

ELECTION CENTER
National Association of Election Officials

- Election Center
  - Doug Lewis & Ernie Hawkins
  - Election Administration Team
- Promote, preserve and improve democracy
- Also known as the National Association of Election Officials
- Trains and certifies (nationally and state specific) voter registration and election officials
- Conducts conferences, workshops and seminars
- Offers college level instruction

ELECTION CENTER
National Association of Election Officials

- Establish focus groups of election officials
  - Initially review and define current professional voting practices and developing technology that have possibilities for further study (6 meetings)
  - As ideas are developed comment on advisability and feasibility
  - Test concepts at Beta sites with comprehensive analysis

ELECTION CENTER
National Association of Election Officials

- Dissemination of research
  - Project specific training
    - 4 prior to 2012 elections
    - 6 at conclusion of project
  - Sessions at Workshops and Conferences
    - 9 during life of grant
  - Develop written training materials

- **Rutgers University**
  - Lisa Schur, PhD
  - Doug Kruse, PhD
  - Meera Adya, PhD
  - James Schmeling, JD
  - Peter Blanck, JD, PhD
  - Election Administration Team

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
RUTGERS

- Conduct and analyze a national randomized survey of voting-age citizens following the 2012 elections

  - Sample will be representative, except people with disabilities will be oversampled to focus on their experiences: 2000 people with disabilities, 1000 people without disabilities

  - Phone survey will use standard polling procedures, with additional measures to ensure participation by the full range of people with disabilities

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
RUTGERS

- Survey will investigate polling place accessibility for those who voted in 2012, and past and expected accessibility problems for those who didn't vote in 2012

  - Analysis will provide overall portrait of polling place accessibility in 2012, with comparisons between people with and without disabilities, and among major types of disability

  - Results will be widely disseminated through the RAAV website, media, and scholarly conferences and publication

Election Data Services

- Election Data Services, Inc.
  - Kimball Brace
  - Election Administration Team
- Maintain Voting Equipment Usage for every jurisdiction in nation since 1980
- Contractor & subcontractor to EAC for Election Administration & Voting Survey
  - 2004, 2006, 2008*, 2010*
    - *subcontractor

Election Data Services

- Update database for disability equipment information
- Set up system for jurisdictions to update own data
- Allow jurisdictions to search database for similar equipment or size
- Work with vendors to coordinate their input

- # AAPD
  - ○ Jim Dickson
- # Vendor and Disability Organization Relations

RAAV in 2012

- **Demonstration Projects in 2012**
  - Municipal elections, student organizations, etc.
  - Training materials, i.e. searchable video
  - Focus groups, data collection, …

- **Collaboration between**
  - RAAV, EAC, NIST, ITIF
  - Vendors, Voting Communities, and many more

http://www.PrimeVotingSystem.org/p3.html

1. President ==> Bugs Bunny

2. Vice President ==> Daffy Duck

3. Governor ==> Elmer Fudd

4. Proposition 1 ==> Yes

Thank You

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