# NACLIN 2007: A Report

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The National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking (NACLIN 2007) was organised by DELNET at the India International Centre, New Delhi from November 20-23, 2007. At the inaugural function held on November 20, 2007 Dr. Karan Singh, MP and President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi initiated the convention with invocation of *Saraswati Vandana* himself. Dr. Karan Singh inaugurated the convention with the lighting of the lamp. He was followed by Prof. M.G.K. Menon, Dr. S. Vardarajan, Dr. H. K. Kaul and Ms. Sangeeta Kaul in lighting the lamp. Ms. Sangeeta Kaul, the Organising Secretary, NACLIN 2007 welcomed the dignitaries on the dais and the delegates and participants. She also read the messages received from President, Vice President and Prime Minister of India.

Prof M. G. K. Menon, President, India International Centre delivered the presidential address. He spoke on the development and importance of library networks and referred to the role being played by the Internet and the digital libraries. He emphasised the efficacy of library networks and ICT in libraries and said that the use of ICT skills by library professionals was essential. He also referred to the important digital library projects like Universal Digital Library and Million Books Project, etc. He observed how traditional knowledge was important in the present context and added that the digital libraries could generate indigenous knowledge using various tools and techniques.

Dr. H.K. Kaul, Director, DELNET stressed the importance of NACLIN and gave a brief outline of the growth of DELNET. He recollected the initial objectives of DELNET and focused on its future development highlighting the importance of information technology in making knowledge accessible to people in the knowledge society.

Dr. Kaul talked about the future of librarianship and said that librarians should become knowledge workers. He specifically pointed out that librarians should be proactive in the specialised areas of their respective institutions. He felt that is how libraries could become knowledge centres. He highlighted that there was the need for having one-point access to all resources available on a subject and gave examples to this effect. He rightly said that the knowledge disparity between poor and rich people, especially in the remote areas in India was wide. Based on the participation and paper submissions to NACLIN 2007 he felt that the growth in participation was steady. He added that DELNET received 276 papers for NACLIN 2007 but only 56 papers were selected for the presentation and publication in the convention volume. Dr. Karan Singh released NACLIN 2007 pre-conference volume of papers and Prof. M. G. K. Menon released the NACLIN 2007 Souvenir. Dr. Karan Singh in his inaugural speech said that books were to stay though they had become also available in the digital form. He hoped that the librarians would become modernised and make good use of digital resources. He said that multiple revolutions including the revolution in IT had made remarkable changes in the information field. He felt that the old tradition of libraries should remain. He referred to libraries like Nalanda Library, Alexandria Library among others and said that the old manuscripts and books should be well preserved for posterity. He added that the World Wide Web had become the tsunami of information. From this ocean of information we had to collect knowledge and from knowledge we have to get wisdom. He said that ultimately knowledge liberates man from all kinds of imperfections and negativities. He advised that the librarians should not lose sight of the ultimate purpose of knowledge. He regretted to note that our libraries are substandard and that the reading habits in public was going down. There was a need to develop a meaningful interface between libraries and community. He hoped that the librarians will advise users about what knowledge to access, and how best to use the IT tools. He hoped that the librarians will expand the frontiers of their minds. He concluded by saying that the language libraries should grow and also should the skills of the librarians. He felt that there was a mismatch between the individual consciousness and the growing technology. There was a need to build the bridges between the two.

Dr. S. Vardarajan, President, DELNET applauded the achievements of DELNET.

Ms. Sangeeta Kaul presented a vote of thanks to dignitaries on the dais and the delegates. She thanked the supporters of the Convention: Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), ICSSR, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune (DIAT), Airports Authority of India, Div II on Software of Computer Society of India and IEEE Computer Society, Madras. She thanked the sponsors, Pressmart - the Platinum sponsor, Sun Microsystems for Gold sponsorship and Google and Emerald Group Publishing Ltd. for Silver sponsorships. She also

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thanked the foreign delegates who attended NACLIN 2007 from Australia, Bangladesh, Botswana, Oman and USA.

It was followed by the Inauguraion of the Exhibition on Books & IT products by Dr. S. Varadarajan, President, DELNET.

The first tutorial was arranged on KOHA, an open source library management software. The first presentation was made by Sangeeta Kaul, Network Manager. She explained the features, advantages and disadvantages of Open Source Softwares like KOHA, OpenBibio, PHP, My Library, D-Space, Avanti, etc. She elaborated upon the criteria for evaluating the Open Source Integrated Library System. Ms. Sangeeta Kaul spoke about KOHA, its history, why KOHA was required, features of KOHA, KOHA Server, KOHA Client, skill requirements for operating KOHA, and comparison among existing commercial software available in India and KOHA. It was found that the only difference was that KOHA was free of cost software with all features existing in commercial software in India.

Mr. Basavaraj Talikoti, Asst. Library & Information Officer, Delhi Public Library gave a practical demonstration of KOHA. He demonstrated complete KOHA installation, setting up KOHA server, Apache Server, Mail server, etc. and also demonstrated setting up of parameters like system preference, in modules like Acquisition, Cataloguing, Circulation, Membership, Authority, Report Generation, OPAC, etc. He demonstrated working on all these modules by giving an online example of KOHA software in DPL and also demonstrated how the data could be imported from LOC using Z39.50 protocol.

This was followed by product presentation by Emerald Group Publishing Ltd.

**November 21, 2007**

**Tutorial on RFID Technology**

Ms Sangeeta Kaul started the day's proceedings by welcoming all the participants. She introduced Mr. Senthil Kumar, Asia Technologies Ltd, Chennai who made a presentation on RFID. Mr. Kumar's presentation was sufficiently elaborate. He presented various RFID applications including its use in libraries. He spoke on the introduction, advantages and disadvantages of the technology implementation and also mentioned the complexities involved in implementing it in different environments. He highlighted the methods for the implementation of RFID technology in tracking and tracing of the object manufacturing asset management, security and access control and consumer application. He talked about the types of tags involved in RFID technology such as HF and UHF. The presentation generated enormous insight among the participants and there were several questions involving cost implication and deployment of RFID technology in systematic implementation in different types of libraries. An online demonstration of the RFID was also organised. It was followed by a presentation of Ebsco database.

**RFID Implementation in IIT Madras: Case Study**

Dr. Harish Chandra, Librarian, IIT Madras shared his experiences right from conceiving of RFID plans to the successful implementation of this technology at IIT Madras Library. He described the challenges faced, and motivation gained from adopting the RFID technology. He talked about the advantages like effective transactions, matchless speed, integrated digital library, operational excellences, high level user satisfaction, theft control, ensuring autonomy to users, zero repetitive work, quick stocktaking, etc. He also emphasised identifying various items to be implemented like RF Tags, Counter Stations, Self Check Stations, Book Drop Station. Dr. Harish Chandra earmarked RFID application area in the library environment like library security, transactions, location of publications, stock management, and user dependent services. He mentioned the capacity building measures, the smart card preparation, library management software integration, staff training, user awareness programme, site preparation, etc. He referred to the major problems faced by him during the implementation of RFID project in IITM Library.

**November 22, 2007**

The first Technical Section was on "Knowledge and Society: The Growing Interoperable Dimensions". It was chaired by Mr. Lov Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India Three authors presented their papers. The keynote paper was presented by Dr. H. K. Kaul, Director, DELNET. He talked about knowledge and society and its relevance in creating a knowledge society. He explained the objective and subjective knowledge and emphasised that it was ultimately the technical knowledge which was most important in society for development purposes. He also stressed the importance of social knowledge and the key factors in it such as social data, social communication, social knowledge and social wisdom. He noted that in order to get ultimately social wisdom, our information system should be strengthened in various dimensions such as ethical, economical and social. He quoted Arthur Cecil Pigou who in 1920 had emphasised the importance of practical knowledge and had made a tremendous impact on the developed countries.

The second keynote paper was presented by Dr. Vivek Patkar on

"Transforming Library to Cope with the New Web Technology and Social Challenges". He referred to the emerging challenges and suggested the way for transforming a library. He said that a new trend for information organisation was emerging and thus referred to various technologies used in this regard. He explained the relevance of Folksonomy and Social Tagging; Wiki Sites; Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 and gave a conceptual model for library transformation. He attended to various problems such as 'uncertaities of collaborative and regulated knowledge'; 'copyright violations and plagiarism'; 'critical evaluation of the promises of the democratising influence of Web 2.0 and Library 2.0'; 'relevance of Cosmopedia' among other issues. Based on these observations, he mentioned nine points for the library professionals to follow for development of libraries in the digital era. He added that everybody talked about the information overflow but the librarians can handle it well only with the use of efficient and strong tools.

The third presentation in this session was by Th. Khomdon Singh on "Community Participation in the Development of Public Libraries in Manipur". Dr Singh began his presentation with the public library and its importance and the role of Manipur Library Association(MALA) in the development of public libraries in the region. He also referred to various activities that were taking place in the libraries in Manipur. He concluded his paper by stressing that the role of community participation and professional associations was important for the promotion of public library services in Manipur. This paper was followed by a presentation by Sun Microsystems. At the end of the session while answering questions, Mr. Lov Verma, the chairman said that the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) for libraries and for the promotion of a knowledge society were going to be implemented in the 11th Five Year Plan.

The second technical session on "Knowledge Delivery and Access Mechanisms" was chaired by Dr. Harish Chandra, Librarian IIT, Madras. The first paper was presented by Sanjay Deglookar on "Delivering Quality Service: A Customer-Centric Approach". He gave a brief status of IIM, Lucknow Library. He emphasised various services such as Current Awareness Service, Document Delivery, Reprography and Reference Service provided to users. He stressed that quality-oriented services were important for end users. He said that IIM, Lucknow Library has been using NewGen's OmniDocs software for digitisation of content pages of various journals.

The second presentation was given by Rajnish Sharma on the "Use of DELNET in Engineering College Libraries of Haryana". This presentation was based on the survey conducted among twelve Harayana engineering colleges. The survey looked at membership status, sources of finance with the colleges, availability of ICT infrastructure, library automation, creation of digital library facilities, use of DELNET services, its usefulness etc. The study showed that DELNET was playing a marvellous role for the engineering colleges in Haryana. It was suggested that DELNET should also offer full text PDF or HTML documents for important documents in demand.

The third paper in the session was presented by Dr. M. Doraswamy on "Information Searching Habits of Postgraduate Students in Engineering College Library: A Survey". The paper highlighted the use of online services in digital libraries; the time spent on Web searching; the utility and importance of electronic information; the types of approaches, databases and search techniques used; the satisfaction derived by the students and the problems faced by them. It was felt that the Internet facilities need to be improved; training in accessing Internet was required and full-text facilities needed to be improved in the colleges.

The fourth paper in the session was presented by M Eqbal on the "Use of Electronic Journals by the Research Scholars of the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering, AMU, Aligarh." The presentation revealed that 88.24 per cent scholars were aware of E-journals and a majority of students were using E-journals. They also used search engines. It was found that there was a need for training of users. The session was ended with a presentation by Pressmart Media Limited.

The third technical session on "Knowledge Tools/Technology" was chaired by H.R. Mohan. The first keynote paper was presented by Mrs Heather Brown on the "Gateways". She highlighted the role of gateways for digital preservation and referred to the construction phase, the selection of documents for preservation; the technological issues including refreshing, migrating, emulating, standards, guidelines and trusted framework. Importance of Medadata, Trustworthy Repositories Audit and Certification (TRAC) etc. She also mentioned how the gateways could be strengthened and presented a combined and integrated approach for this work. The second paper was presented by Dr Gayathri Sen on "Importance of Backups for Information Lifecycle Management in Automated and Digital Libraries." She gave reasons for taking backups in digital libraries and referred to several inexpensive backup options that are fast and easy to use. Dr. Sen referred to the strategies for taking foolproof backups and described the processes and methodologies used at PESIT, Bangalore.

The next paper was presented by Sharad Kumar Sonker on "Knowledge Portal: An Innovative Approach for the Libraries" The paper gave insights into the components of a knowledge portal such as E-mail; real-time messaging; discussion forums; knowledge catalogue; repository; database tools and

software, etc. He observed how these portals were important in giving different services through a single window.

Jagadeesh B. made a presentation on "Knowledge Portals: A Web Retrieval Tool in TCS, Mumbai". He defined the E-portals, their features, and the access options to E-resources and explained how this technology was used at TCS. P.K. Choudhary gave a presentation on "Document Management: Tools and Techniques" mostly related to the documents management facilities used at DLF, Delhi. He described various techniques, used step by step in DLF. He gave the benefits of this system and said it was the toughest task for the general staff to adopt new ways and techniques.

The next two presentations on RFID technology were by B.B. Patnaik and Binal H. Joshi. B.B. Patnaik's presentation described the RFID technology including a comparison of RFID with Barcode, inventory management, economic facts; architecture of RFID system; including merits and demerits. He was hopeful that RFID technology was going to be increasingly used in libraries. The other presentation by Binal H. Joshi described the various steps taken in the application of RFID in the Babaria Institute of Technology. She felt that the use of chipless tags would be a welcome feature in future. G. K. Majunath presented a paper on "Integrating an Online Thesaurus with Open Index Initiatives(OIA): A Case Study". OIL is a model for providing an online comprehensive index for Indian Social Science literature in India. In his presentation, Mr. Manjunath gave detailed features of OIA including genesis, model, system design, tables, data entry worksheet, etc. The next presentation was by R.S. Bist on "Digitisation: Progress and Challenges at Gandhi Smriti Library of LBS National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie". Mr. Bist discussed the tools and technological issues in digitisation and discussed the project proposal, the decisions taken; selection of material, methodology; scanning and making of image files; image and batch processing; OCR, etc. He also offered suggestions for taking digitisation work.

The last presentation in this session by Aparna Raghuraman was on "Defence Institute of Advanced Technology Interoperable Defence Academic Institutional Repository: The IDAIP Project". She described the DIAT digital library development system from its conceptual stage to the implementation stage. She highlighted the features of automation and institutional repository of DIAT Pune using Suchika and DSpace both on Windows Operating System. She explained how their users were benefiting by the IDAIR Project.

The fourth technical session on "Content Creation and Digital Resources" was chaired by Josephine Moesi, Botswana, Dr. Krishan Gopal and Navjit Brar, USA. The keynote paper was presented by P. Ramanujan on "Creation of Content in Local Languages: The Case of Sanskrit". Mr. Ramanujan described the case study of a project related to Sanskrit and the Vedas and mentioned that it involved creation of Web-based Vedic and Sanskrit knowledge-base, development of analytical and search capabilities and deploying of *Garuda* Grid environment. He explained the role of a computer-based manuscript editor and the other operations such as formatting, inputting, editing, creation of a database, searching etc. He also gave the salient features of the Mahabharata database and said that in order to create trained manpower for undertaking these jobs the universities should provide high-level training. The next keynote paper was by Dr. Harish Chandra on "Framework for the Creation of Digital Knowledge Resources to Meet the Challenges for a Digital Future". Dr. Harish Chandra explained the features of the knowledge-value chain and the types of digital knowledge resources. He explained the use of knowledge portals in library and information science and said that by keeping a proper framework, future digitisation work could achieve the desired goals in order to satisfy the library customers. The next presentation was made by Navjit Brar on "Towards Co-Creation of Knowledge in the Interaction Age: An Organisation Case Study". She affirmed that the recent information, communication and computing technologies created new opportunities for university librarians in knowledge creation activities. She described the essentials of participatory design philosophy and practice and how it could be applied to students. She explained the user-generated enhancements and fundamentals of co-designing and felt that the participatory co-design reflected the fundamental shift in higher education with the focus on learning. She remarked that it was a promising approach for the universities to follow.

Mr. Surinder Kumar made a presentation on "Setting Up Digital Repositories: Challenges and Issues". He explained the use of open source software packages in developing digital repositories and gave a detailed overview of the whole operation. Ranjita N. Dash made her presentation on "Digital Library: A Feasibility Study of Barbaria Institute Library, Vadodra". She discussed the relevance and purpose of digital libraries and explained the key features of a digital Library. She explained the digitisation work conducted in her library, explaining various processes. However, she concluded by saying that the Barbaria Institute library had to travel a long way in the digitisation process.

Mr. Mritunjaya Kumar made a presentation on "Establishing a Digital Library in the University Setup: A Case Study of Panjab University Library, Chandigarh". He also explained the concept, definitions, the basic objectives and advantages of digital libraries. He talked about the complete process undertaken by the university for digitisation work. Shiva Kanujia Sukula made a presentation on "E-journal Consortia and Knowledge Delivery at Ch. Charan Singh University Library, Meerut". She explained the selection process of E-journals, the

knowledge delivery mechanisms and the impact of the consortium on the academic community. She gave a qualitative assessment of knowledge delivery and said that more funds needed to be made available for this purpose.

Bharati Banerjee made a presentation on "E-journals: Opportunities and Challenges". She explained major issues in electronic journal management including evaluation, selection, pricing, staffing, archiving, etc. She mentioned that in a network environment the monitoring of usage and performance was a complex process but a number of projects were being undertaken to find a proper solution for this issue. The next presentation by Sangita Sahu was on "Open Access Journals in Library and Information Science: An Overview". She gave an introduction to open access journals; open access E-journal publishers and hosts and the gateways. She listed the open access journals in India and described their impact factor. She hoped that quality information available through open access journals in LIS in India would enhance the skills of LIS professionals. The last paper in this session was presented by Anita Kumari entitled "Information Needs of Researchers of IBM India Research Lab, Delhi." She highlighted the information needs of researchers and engineers at IBM India and noted that her services were based on the survey findings and accordingly she had designed her programs.

The last technical session on "LIS Education, Skills and Competency Development" was chaired by Prof. A.C. Tikekar and co-chaired by H. Kalilur Rahman. The keynote presentation was made by Prof. Pravakar Rath on "Towards a Knowledge Society: LIS Education and Skills in the Knowledge Era". He enumerated the issues confronted by LIS educators and looked at the trends shaping in the knowledge society from the LIS perspective which include the growth of information society to knowledge society; the need of LIS professionals to become knowledge professionals; the need for transforming traditional libraries into digital libraries; the relevance of resource sharing library networks; the importance of content management and the importance of learning through the Web. He stressed that there was need for introducing LIS education and skills through ICT application. He felt that as most of the activities in the knowledge world were Web-centric, its use by LIS professionals was necessary. He recommended the need for the national information policy; the national digital library policy; information literacy; national accreditation in LIS education in India among other issues. He concluded by saying that the Indian LIS education should meet the global challenges.

The second presentation was made by H. Kalilur Rahman on "New Facets of the Library Professionals in the Digital Era: Problems and Perspectives". He stressed the importance of ICT for LIS professionals, which include computer education, network knowledge, content development and ability of LIS professionals to interact with computer professional in the designing and development of information services for the patrons. He highlighted several roles of librarians as collection developers, information providers, trainers and knowledge managers. He felt that knowledge empowerment was the ideal way to overcome all new challenges. A case study was presented by R. Pommal Rao on "Intelligence of Library Staff in the Changed Scenario: A Case Study of Indira Gandhi Memorial Library, University of Hyderabad". He referred to the importance of various technologies and networks; involvement of professionals in IT; the education system and the role of library professionals. The survey revealed that the hardships in acquiring new knowledge may be with gender, age and superannuation issues. He felt that the staff were sent for training to other places but when they came back they forgot to implement new technologies in the library.

The next presentation by Sreekala Sudeep was on "Library and Information Science Education in Kerala: Quantity vs Quality: A Case Study of Rajagiri School of Library and Information Science". She gave a historical overview of LIS education in Kerala and compared quantity vs. quality in LIS education. She felt that the development of qualified human resource LIS was very important and suggested an overall review of LIS education in Kerala for introducing modern education techniques. The next presentation by Santhadevi Antherjanam was on "LIS Education, Training, Research: A Kerala Scenario". She presented a comparative study of LIS Teaching/Training and LIS Research in Kerala universities. She presented the status of teaching and research including UGC-sponsored refresher courses. She also recommended introducing training which acquainted students with various aspects of information, knowledge and communication and their roles in society. Dr. V.K.J. Jeevan gave a presentation on "DELNET and Distance Education". He said the DELNET service could be useful to IGNOU students located in different parts of the country and felt that they should have two study circles in each district all over India. It was difficult to provide books and other services to students individually. Hence he submitted that DELNET should provide library services to distant learners who are located in distant places. It was followed by a presentation by Syed N. Imam on "Quality, Leadership and Top Management: The Essence of LIS". He made an analysis of quality and described various aspects of quality. His excellent paper defined how quality management could make a difference in providing information services to top management. Dr. Imam presented the principles of quality and explained how good quality could be maintained. He referred to Juran's Triology which brought out basic quality-related processes, namely planning, control and improvement. He introduced six new skills for library and information science officers and mentioned quality guidelines for top managements He emphasised "Those who aim high, reach high."

E. Nishavathi made a presentation on "Research Trends in Library and Information Science: A Subjective Analysis of Doctoral Theses Published in India." She presented the subject scatter analysis of research topics in LIS in India, in which 27.96 per cent topics fell under research on management of LIS systems. She also analysed the distribution of sub-topics and gave a chronological analysis of research topics and their scatter. She stressed on improving quality research in the LIS field in India. She said that just for getting a Doctoral degree theses were being submitted. Such thesis did not have any practical relevance and were not good even for reference purposes. Memori Sagolsem made a presentation on "Professional Development in Digital Environment: A Case Study of Public Libraries in Manipur". She analysed the views of professionals and non-professionals for the use of IT and found that 91.59 per cent of the staff accepted that the use of IT in libraries was necessary. She highlighted the problems in implementing IT in libraries and made recommendations on how professional development could be advanced by using ICT application in Manipur. The last presentation of this session was by Kshipra Sardesai on "The Role of LIS Professionals in Knowledge Society" She said that the use of IT applications was essential for introducing a knowledge society and added that after the establishment of information centres, the next task was to build knowledge centers. She described the importance of E-governance and that the public should be trained in the use of ICT-based resources.

The last technical session on "Networking Knowledge" was chaired by Dr. H.K. Kaul and co-chaired by Dr. Subbaiah Arunachalam. Ashutosh G. Joshi made the presentation on "Transforming Traditional Libraries into a Multi location Library Network: A Case Study". The paper was based on the study conducted for Mahindra & Manindra. Mr. Joshi gave an overview of the subject and described the drivers of networking He presented the Granthagar project from the identification of books to the database level and explained how a business model was worked out. He referred to various challenges they faced in this task and explained the importance of appropriate software and the design and development process in the implementation of the project. I.S. Mann made a presentation on "Reading Habits of Faculty Members in Polytechnic Colleges in Punjab: A Case Study of Adesh and Bhai Maha Singh Polytechnic Colleges, Muktsar." The study has been conducted to know the reading habits of faculty members which include visits to the library on sources consulted by them and the use of different library services. The study revealed that the majority of faculty members visited the library weekly and they used 43.11 per cent of the journals for getting technical and scientific information. It was also found that 57.5 per cent of faculty members read literature for teaching and research purposes. It was also found that the faculty members depended upon their personal collections for study and research. At the end of the session, Dr. Kaul invited Dr. Subbaiah Arunachalam to throw light on Networking of Knowledge among the rural poor. Dr. Arunachalam described the work carried out by the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation at Chennai. He explained how they established information centres in the villages with need-based requirements of the people. He said that forecasting the condition of the waves of the sea and crop prices was made through the information service the Foundation provided to the farmer in the village. He noted that there was a need for a Hub and Spoke Model in the dissemination of information to the villagers. He felt that this model should be successfully implemented all over India. For the extended discussion, Dr. Kaul wanted to know how social information was collected from the rural masses. Dr. Arunachalam mentioned that they used the basic communication model for collecting the information.

This was followed by a panel discussion on "Libraries Without Boundaries: Reaching the Unreachable in Knowledge Era". Smt Kalpana Dasgupta (Chair), Dr. R.K. Chadha (Co-Chair) Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam and Dr. P.R. Goswami participated.

NACLIN 2007 ended with a Valedictory address by Shri M. Moni, DDG, NIC. Prof. Syed Shahid Mahdi, Former V-C, Jamia Millia Islamia presided over the function. Mr. Regis Dutremee, Head, Digital Library Division, Bibliotheque Publique d'Information (BPI), Paris was the Guest of Honour. Mr. Subhash Deshmukh, Rapporteur-General, NACLIN 2007 presented the report.