why data-driven approach?
- budget and space constraints
- e-book utilization
- usage data availability
- balanced scorecard approach

data sources
- integrated library system
- vendor acquisitions data
- usage statistics
- collection analysis tools

methodology
- extract circulation data for all books purchased during past 2 calendar years
- sort by NLM subject areas
- determine subjects most/least used
- identify subjects for further study

data calculated
1. average number of loans for each subject area
2. looked at subjects with highest percentages of books in subject area with:
   - 0 loans
   - 1 loan
   - 0-3 loans
   - > 3 loans
   - > 6 loans
3. ranked each category by subject area

data analysis
- some subject areas had too few books to extrapolate
- some subjects had interesting results and required in-depth analysis:
  - Radiology- over 50% circulated >5 times
  - Communicable Diseases- 46.2% never circulated
  - Nursing- lower circ numbers than expected
  - Pharmacology- performed better than expected
  - Surgery- 33.3% never circulated

results and conclusions
- highest average number of loans in biology, radiology, human anatomy, pharmacology and cardiovascular system
- lowest average number of loans (look these up)
- e-book versions of books generally used more than print counterparts
- books with low page numbers circulated less - big, heavy books DO circulate!
- books with multiple editions circulated more
- Doody’s Core Titles were not always highly circulated in some subject areas
- core titles still need to be available in print

research questions:
- do monographic selections meet user needs?
- do some subjects/book types circulate more than others?
- do institutional priority areas circulate more than other subject areas?
- how can we improve circulation numbers through better selection?

subject analysis
- books physically examined in the above five subjects
- type: textbook, study guide, atlas or handbook
- clinical vs. research
- edition number
- theoretical vs. practical
- special physical characteristics
- Doody’s Core Title

next steps
- continue physical examination of other subject areas
- set baselines for Balanced Scorecard approach
- increase average number of loans per subject area by improving selection decisions
- analyze cost-per-use by subject area
- reach out to users in under-utilized subject areas