

# Is there value in value added cataloging?

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# Background

- Departmental goal of adding value to the OPAC by increasing access points:
  - Adding/enhancing tables of contents
  - Recataloging selected monographic series individually
- Wanted to see if this would really make a difference → began an imperfect and impromptu study of circulation statistics

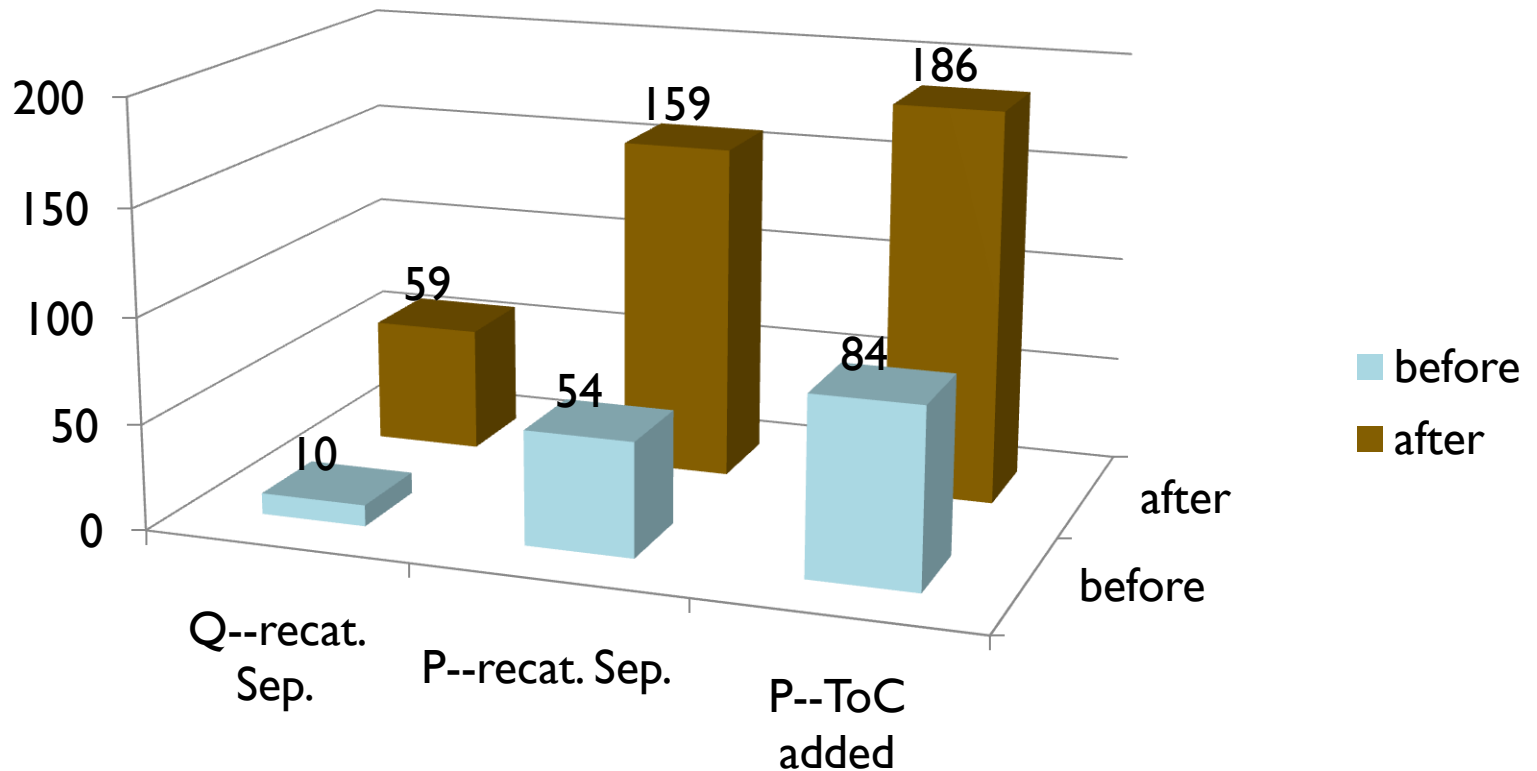
# Procedures/Methods

- Kept an Excel spreadsheet with circulation statistics on the items we changed, and the date the changes were made
- Checked circulations again after 1-2 years and analyzed the results

# Items we chose

- Chose collectively cataloged monographic series primarily in the LC class Q's for recataloging separately (looked for series where items had distinctive titles)
- For tables of contents (ToC) we looked for items in LC class P's that contained many individual works, e.g. collections of plays, novels, short stories. We either added 970 fields, or overlaid records from OCLC that had 505 fields (we enhanced these if not already enhanced)

# % circulations per item, compared to the general collection



# Summary/Conclusions

- Adding ToC and/or cataloging monographic series separately (when items have distinctive titles) do add value to the OPAC for our users, as shown by increased circulation of these items.
- Careful consideration is needed when choosing items when making retroactive changes, due to the labor investment required.