

Migrating Print Serials Available Electronically

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Statement of Purpose:

The goal of this project is to understand the reason print periodicals are still collected at a large rate at many University Library systems.

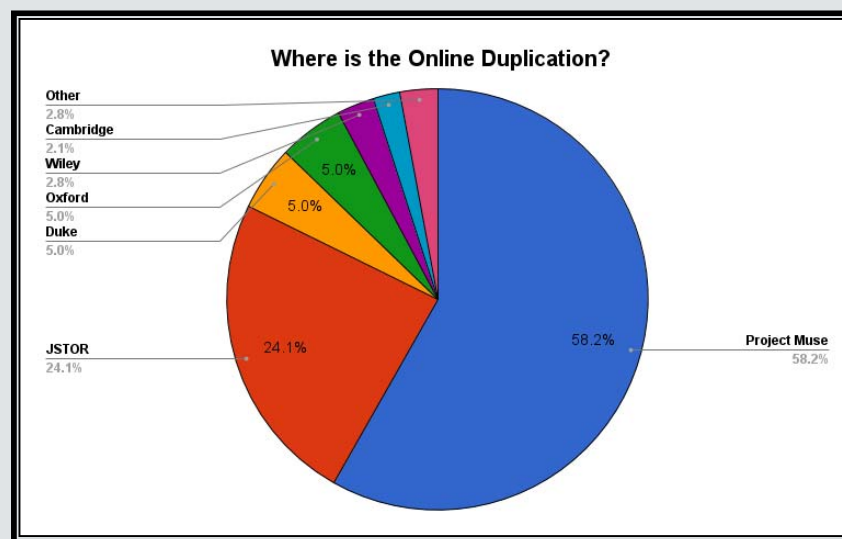
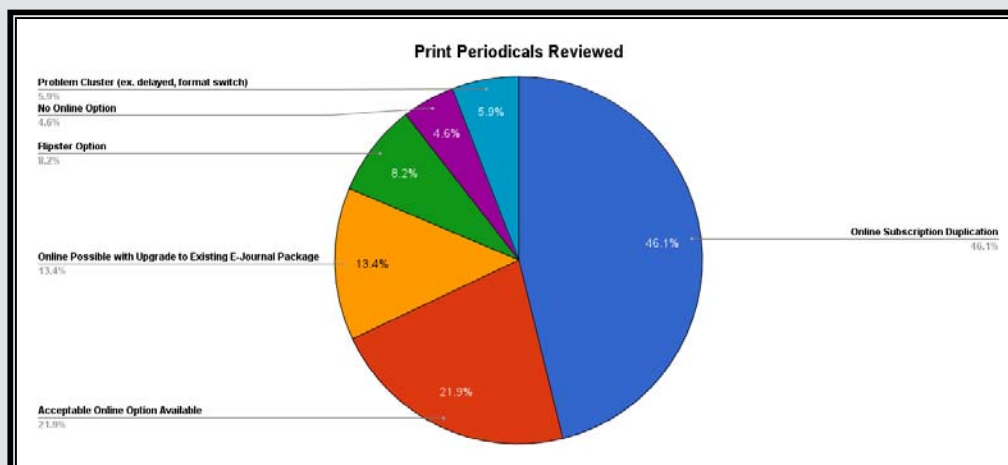
Introduction: The Columbia University Library system still has a large print periodical collection. Our materials budget reflects the move to electronic; as e-journals and databases make up 43% of the current acquisitions budget and print periodicals only make up 4% of the budget. However, this 4% reflects a large number of active titles.

Methods: Our case study focused on print periodicals housed in Columbia's Butler Library. Butler's Periodical Reading Room receives the largest number of print periodicals across our 17-library system: 1,557 print periodicals.

We looked at data from one subscription agent with:

- Total subscriptions (P, P+E): 601
- Print only subscriptions: 306

We choose to investigate the print subscriptions only. We reviewed these titles for electronic availability; if the e-format can be supported by the libraries, and how many of the titles are still only available in print.



Key Finding for Print Periodicals:

- 38% of subscriptions overlapped with two e-journal packages; these duplicative subscriptions total \$15,133.
- 45% of journals overlaps with 6 e-journal packages at an estimated cost of \$20,093.
- Out of the 306 titles, 14 titles do not have an acceptable online-only equivalent.
- An additional 25 titles are available through Flipster access.

Action Items:

- 202 of the 306 titles are paid on a large interdisciplinary fund with little oversight, which accounts for lack of review. The funds expenditure total \$30,054. This fund needs systematic evaluation.
- Upgrading one e-journal package would add an additional 41 print titles. The price of these 41 print titles totals \$3,388, but the upgrade cost is \$20,000.

Problem Cluster Explained:

- Data analysis period overlapped with journal cancellation deadline/process and several titles has switched from P only to P+E during analysis period.
- Several print titles are delayed.