Reducing the Cost of Print Serials

Print serials are expensive. Usage has decreased because many are also online or titles with similar content are online and students use a print source as a last resort.

Cost Per Usage Findings (2015/16)

- Average cost per subscription = $285.25
- Average cost per use = $253.31 (89% of subscription cost)
- Average use per subscription = 1.03
- Subscriptions not used = 114
- Subscriptions used once = 15
- Most used (American journal of occupational therapy) = 25

(Costs not included)...
- Direct binding costs
- Personnel costs...
  - Daily Check in
  - Claiming/tracking orders
  - Processing invoices
  - Preparing and receiving binding shipments
- Space costs
Costs and costs per use continue to increase.

Cost reduction efforts:

1. Cancel print subscriptions for titles that are online.
   a. Already done for permanent repositories.
   b. Do it for titles in databases, even with embargos (although print usage will be examined).
   c. Faculty will have the opportunity to provide input before titles are canceled.
2. Cancel print subscriptions for non-relevant titles (*Ms. Magazine, Harper’s Bazaar*, etc.).
3. Cancel newspaper subscriptions.
   a. Usually arrive late (who wants to read yesterday’s news?).
   b. We don’t preserve them (kept for 2 months).
   c. Can’t effectively measure use.
4. Stop binding popular magazines and keep 1 year only (*Time, The New Yorker, Consumer Reports*, etc.), since they have little historical value.
5. Convert as many titles as possible from print to online only (starting in 2018).
   a. Saves Binding, Personnel, and Space costs.
   b. Makes content more accessible (via link resolver).
   c. For titles also owned by Kent, there are staff efficiencies (electronic invoicing, for example) and potential cost savings (shared licenses).