How to manage a dropbox-like solution in SharePoint

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This FAQ contains information on how to manage a dropbox-like system in our GC Collaborate (Powered by SharePoint) which includes instructions on how to access, share and manage a document library and a dropbox page in SharePoint.

**Accessing GC Collaborate (SharePoint) through the GC Portal**

1. Go to the Graduate Center website and click on the GC Portal
2. Click on ‘GC Collaborate’
3. Click the Pencil Icon or go to https://intranet.gc.cuny.edu/
4. When prompted, enter your GC network username and password and click OK.
   a. On the Mac you get prompted a browser plug in, when prompted click the Trust button.
5. Once you are on the GC Intranet site, click on your department categories. For instance, Academic Departments.
6. Select your department site.
7. Once you are on your department’s site, start managing the document library and the dropbox page accordingly.

The dropbox solution in SharePoint is composed by two elements: a Document Library that serves as the main document repository and a page that serves as the Dropbox. The Document Library is inserted on the page as a Web Part. The site owner (APO, Faculty or Administrator) shares only the Dropbox page link (URL) with users (Students or Applicants). Basically, the site owner sends students the link of the dropbox page, any documents students upload on the page, will be automatically sent to the document library. In order to achieve these results, both items (document library and page) should be managed separately. For example, the site owner will assign permissions to students on both places (document library and dropbox page).

Assigning Permissions

**STEP 1: Share Document Library with students/applicants**

1. Click on the Document Library link on the Quick Launch Menu.
2. Open the Library Tab.
3. Click on the Library Settings folder.
4. Click on the Permissions for this document library link under the Permissions and Management group.
5. Click on **Grant Permissions**.
6. Type users’ GC usernames and select users from the dropdown.
7. Click on **Show Options**.
8. **ALWAYS UNCHECK** the Send an email invitation. Please make sure to uncheck the email invitation box before you click Share.
9. Select the **Contribute** permission level.
10. Click **Share**.
**STEP 2: Share Dropbox Page with students/applicants**

1. Click on the Dropbox Page link on the Quick Launch Menu.
2. Open the Page Tab.
3. Click on Page Permissions.

![Share Dropbox Page](image)

4. Click on Grant Permissions.
5. Enter students’ GC usernames and select from the dropdown.
6. Click on Show Options.
7. **ALWAYS UNCHECK** the Send an email invitation. Please make sure to uncheck the email invitation box before you click Share.
8. Select the Read permission level.
9. Click Share.
STEP 3: Share Document Library with reviewer or faculty advisor

1. Click on the Document Library link on the Quick Launch Menu.
2. Open the Library Tab.
3. Click on the Library Settings folder.

4. Click on the Permissions for this document library link under the Permissions and Management group.

Department X Library ➤ Settings

Department X Library
https://intrane.gc.cuny.edu/academic_depts/DepartmentX/_layouts/15/start.aspx#/Lists/AllItems.aspx
5. Click on the Site Members group. For example: Department X Members.

6. Click on New.

7. Enter members’ GC usernames and select from the dropdown.

8. Click on Show Options.

9. **ALWAYS UNCHECK** the Send an email invitation. Please make sure to uncheck the email invitation box before you click Share.

10. Click Share.
Notes for the site owner

1. **Document Library:** Assign the [Contribute](#) permission level to students.
2. **Dropbox Page:** Assign the [Read](#) permission level to students.
3. Members (faculty advisors or reviewers) only need permissions to the Library. By default members have [Edit permission](#).
4. Applicants or students need permissions to both items: **Document Library (Contribute)** and **Dropbox Page (Read)**.
5. Always [UNCHECK](#) the **Send an email invitation box** when assigning permissions.

Creating a View

In SharePoint you can create custom views to organize and show specific items. You can also filter and sort data.

**How to create a view?**

1. Once you are in the library for which you want to create the view, click on the **Library Tab** and click on **Create View**.

   ![Create View](image)

2. On the Settings page, choose a View Type. For information on each type, see [Types of views you can choose below](#).

3. Name your View and select [Make this the default view](#) if you want to make this the default view for this library. Choose the columns you want to display, sort, filter, group by and customize your view by opening the [Settings for views](#).

4. After customizing your View, click **OK**.
Quick search and filter out without creating a view

1. Click on the arrow next to the column name and select the information you want to view. Sort your data by click on **Ascending** or **Descending**.

2. You can search by a particular document name or any other metadata component by just typing it in the search box.

**Note:** Allow the search index 1 hour to display results. If students upload document you will not be able to search for them immediately. Documents will be added to the document library immediately but the search index will take from 15 min to 1 hour to find the documents.
Other Resources

- Learn How to Use and Create SharePoint Views
- Create, change, or delete a view of a list or library
- Manage a Document Library in SharePoint