



Collaborative Manuscript Template for Google Docs

TECHNOLOGY NUMBER: 2026-263



OVERVIEW

A Google Docs template streamlining collaborative research manuscript drafting for remote teams.

- Organizes key writing elements: author info, vision targets, drafts, supporting materials, and correspondence.
- Maximizes productivity in co-author collaborations by centralizing content and version control, accelerating publication timelines.

BACKGROUND

Writing and publishing scientific research with multiple authors can be challenging, especially as research teams are increasingly distributed across institutions and continents. Collaboration is often hampered by version confusion, lack of clarity around writing responsibilities, and fragmented document storage. Existing tools rarely offer a structured yet flexible system to manage all stages of manuscript development in one place.

The global research community is growing, with over 2 million scientific articles published annually and increasing rates of multi-institutional collaboration. There is a clear need for better tools to support remote and hybrid research teams, facilitating efficient, organized, and transparent manuscript workflows.

Technology ID

2026-263

Category

Research Tools and Reagents
Content
Software & Content
Translational Science Training
Resources

Inventor

Bethany Laursen

Further information

Tina Suntres

tsuntres@umich.edu

Innovation Partnerships Tech
Marketing Team

IPInventions@umich.edu

[View online](#)



INNOVATION

This Google Docs template gives every co-author immediate access to the most current document, no matter where they are in the world. Unlike generic text documents or simple file sharing, the template guides research teams through every aspect of drafting and organizing a manuscript:

- It provides dedicated sections for vision targets, author details, working drafts, fragments to keep or discard (“fodder/trash”), possible titles, correspondence drafts, archival files, and template credits.
- By housing all writing and communication components in a living document, the template eliminates confusion over file versions, centralizes feedback, and supports seamless team efforts from first draft through submission.
- Its customizable structure means teams can adapt the template to suit the specifics of their project and workflow, making it a powerful solution for modern scientific publishing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PROJECT LINKS:

- [Google Docs Template](#)
- [Knowledge Commons](#)

LICENSE: CC BY-NC