Innovative Practices – Information and Technology

PAB encourages the pursuit of excellence through promoting innovation and experimentation in planning education. This site was prepared to share the results of the 2018 Annual Report where programs were asked to self-identify if their program implements any innovative practices. Please contact the program for additional information on their practices. The current contact information is found on the [Planning Accreditation Board Website.](#)

Alabama A&M University
The University has encouraged the faculty members to use online platforms such as Blackboard for all courses along with training to assist faculty in being more creative and innovative in delivering course material.

Clemson University
We got a drone and are exploring different ways the drone can be used in field research and GIS explorations.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Practice-based learning, especially via practicum classes; digital tools and distance learning; short-courses and modules; integration of practice, learning, and research/knowledge-generation; MOOCS, online content management, videos of class material, MITx/edX, Open Course Ware; role-play and case-study approaches; focus on values-based education and reflective practice. We make much more use of on-line and video materials to supplement traditional (or "flipped") classrooms; smaller classes; connections with global clients and partners.

Temple University
Temple University provides free ARC GIS software and labs, Adobe Creative Suite subscriptions for all faculty and students, and a full suite of relevant software.

University of Hawaii at Manoa
We offer two courses that are trans-Pacific. They bring together a network of universities throughout the Asia-Pacific region via videoconference every week so that our students can engage in the topics Energy, Climate Change and Food Security, and Disaster Management, in a multi-cultural setting with access to lectures from faculty and practitioners from our partner universities. Our primary classroom has been recently set up to enable synchronous distance learning.

University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Our program has aimed to incorporate new forms of digital media technology (e.g., story map, collaborative asset mapping, big data analysis) into our teaching and research practices.

University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Although not particularly innovative in today's world, we are now offering five courses online.

University of Virginia
We are pretty tech heavy as we are located in a school of architecture. Our students are getting very good training in 2D/3D visualization, GIS, and graphic display of data. We are also very strong in our emphasis on community engagement. This is being facilitated by the University, but also reflect our faculty strengths and partnerships we have made through our Institute for Envt. Negotiation, our work with our law school, etc.