About The PSRI

The Personal and Social Responsibility Inventory (PSRI): An Institutional Climate Measure is a campus climate survey developed originally as part of an initiative called Core Commitments: Educating Students for Personal and Social Responsibility. Sponsored by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and directed by Caryn McTighe Musil, Core Commitments was supported by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

The initial inventory was developed in 2006 by L. Lee Knefelkamp, Teachers College, Columbia University, who consulted with Richard Hersh, Council for Aid to Education, and drew on the research assistance of Lauren Ruff. The initial inventory was then refined in cooperation with Eric L. Dey and associates at the University of Michigan’s Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education and refined after Dey’s death by Robert D. Reason, at Iowa State University.

About RISE

The Research Institute for Studies in Education (RISE), a unit of the School of Education, is located at Iowa State University. RISE conducts comprehensive, integrated, research and evaluation studies to enhance K-12 and postsecondary education nationally and globally.

About AAC&U

AAC&U is the leading national association concerned with the quality, vitality, and public standing of undergraduate liberal education. Its members are committed to extending the advantages of a liberal education to all students, regardless of academic specialization or intended career. Founded in 1915, AAC&U now comprises 1250 member institutions—including accredited public and private colleges and universities of every type and size.
Five Dimensions of Personal and Social Responsibility

The Personal and Social Responsibility Inventory assesses campus climate on five dimensions of personal and social responsibility that describe developmentally appropriate goals for students in college. In addition to the descriptions below, AAC&U created detailed lists of character traits associated with each of the five dimensions.

Dimensions

Striving for Excellence
Developing a strong work ethic and consciously doing one’s very best in all aspects of college

Cultivating Academic Integrity
Recognizing and acting on a sense of honor, ranging from honesty, fairness, and respect for others and their work to engaging with a formal academic honors code

Contributing to a Larger Community
Recognizing and acting on one’s responsibility to the educational community and the wider society, locally, nationally, and globally

Taking Seriously the Perspectives of Others
Recognizing and acting on the obligation to inform one’s own judgment; engaging diverse and competing perspectives as a resource for learning, citizenship, and work

Developing Competence in Ethical and Moral Reasoning and Action
Developing ethical and moral reasoning in ways that incorporate the other four responsibilities; using such reasoning in learning and in life