
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**Robin A Jones**

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	COMPLETION DATE	FIELD OF STUDY
Madison Area Technical College	A.S.	1980	Occupational Therapy Assistant
Loyola University at Chicago	B.S.	1985	Public Administration
DePaul University	MPA	1991	Public Administration

A. Personal Statement

I serve as the Director of the Great Lakes ADA Center located within the Institute on Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago. I have worked in the field of disability policy for the past 40 years with prior experience working to deliver services directly to individuals with disabilities through the establishment and leadership within an Independent Living Center for 5 years as well as a direct service provider in the role as an occupational therapy assistant for 6 years. I possess leadership qualities that have enabled me to successfully design and carry out a program of training and technical assistance that promotes voluntary compliance with applicable civil rights laws. I have spearheaded numerous projects at the local/state and national level in collaboration with other organization with the goal of enhancing the quality of information available to assist individuals who are both protected under the ADA but also have responsibilities under the law. I have held and currently hold positions of leadership on task forces addressing the barriers and supports needed to enhance the employment outcomes of persons with disabilities including revision of policies and procedures at the State and local level.

Positions and Employment

1998-present	Instructor, Department on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago
1991-present	Project Director and Principal Investigator, Great Lakes ADA Center, Department on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).
1988-present	Non-Salaried Clinical Faculty, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago.
2024	Accessibility Advisor, Democratic National Convention Committee, Chicago, Illinois
1991	Assistive Technology Specialist, Assistive Technology Unit, University of Illinois at Chicago,
1988-91	Executive Director, Progress Center for Independent Living, Oak Park, Illinois.
1986-88	Assistant to the Head, Clinical Associate and Coordinator of Graduate and Undergraduate Admissions, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago
1984-86	Senior Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
1980-84	Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2025-present	Member, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Regional Mobility Advisory Council, Chicago, IL
2025-present	Member, Illinois State Historic Preservation Board, Springfield, IL
2024-present	Accessibility Consultant, Open Door Arts, Worcester, MA
2024-present	Member, ADA Passenger Accessibility Advisory Committee, Chicago Department of Aviation, Chicago, IL
2023-present	Cook County Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Member, Cook County, IL
2022-present	Member, Illinois Access and Functional Needs Advisory Committee, State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Springfield, IL
2016-present	Member, Advisory Board, National Organization of Nurses with Disabilities (NOND)
2016-present	Member, Advisory Board, Chicagoland and Business Leadership Network, Chicago, IL
2024	Accessibility Advisor, Harkin Employment Institute Summitt, Washington, DC
2021-2025	Member, Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center Representative Workgroup, Administration on Disability, U.S. Health and Human Services

2022-2025	Community Advisory Board Member, Chicago Botanical Garden, Northbrook, IL
2021-2023	Peer Coach for the RISE Peer eLearning Community, Administration on Disability, U.S. Health and Human Services
2021-2023	Advisory Committee Member, Immigrant and Refugee-Led Capacity Development Network of Illinois
2023-2024	Co-Chairperson, Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, University of Illinois at Chicago
2021-2023	Member, Advisory Committee, Morphic Software System, Raising the Floor, University of Maryland College Park
2020-2024	Secretary, Illinois Occupational Therapy Association
2020-2024	Member, Chicago Transit Authority ADA Advisory Committee, Chicago, IL
2014-20	Strand Advisory, Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA)
2017-20	Co-Chairperson, City of Chicago Mayor's Task Force on Employment of Persons with Disabilities
2013-17	Advocacy Director, Illinois Occupation Therapy Association
2013-17	Member, State of Illinois Attorney General's Office Disability Advisory Committee
2010-17	Co-Chairperson, Illinois Taskforce on Employment and Economic Opportunity for Persons with Disabilities
2014-16	President, NARRTC (organization representing NIDILRR funded grantees)
2014-15	Member, Chicago Cultural Accessibility Consortium
2013-15	Member, Secretary of State, Accessible Consortium
2011-15	Member, City of Chicago Accessibility Code Advisory Committee
2011-14	Member, Illinois Inclusion Team, Serve Illinois (AmeriCorps)
2010-13	State of Illinois Representative, American Occupation Therapy Association
2009-12	Accessible Technology Advisor, City of Chicago Disability ADA Self-Evaluation Team, City of Chicago
2008-09	Member, Chicago 2016 Olympic Bid Committee. Serve on several subcommittees related to the accessibility of events/activities
2005-07	Member, United Way of Metropolitan Chicago Disability Task Force
2005-06	Member, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development (DCEO), Small Business Development Centers Disability Initiative Advisory Board
2004-08	Secretary, National Board for the Certification of Occupational Therapy Chairperson, Supply Side Work Group, Mayor's Task Force on Employment of People with Disabilities
2002-05	Customizing Employment for People with Disabilities Advisory Council, Chicago Workforce Development Board
2003-05	Member, National Board for the Certification of Occupational Therapy
2001-10	Secretary, American Occupational Therapy Association
1998-01	Chairperson, Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Committee, American Occupational Therapy Association
1992-98	COTA Representative, Representative Assembly, American Occupational Therapy Association
1986-89	COTA Representative, Representative Assembly, American Occupational Therapy Association
1884-94	Member, Illinois Licensure Board, Department of Professional Regulation, State of Illinois
1981-84	Secretary, Illinois Occupational Therapy Association
1979-81	OTA Student Member, Commission on Practice, American Occupational Therapy Association
1979-81	ASCOTA OTA Vice Chair, American Occupational Therapy Association

Honors

2023	Humanitarian Award, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
2023	Adjunct Faculty Service Award, 20 Years. Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
2017	Commendation Award, NARRTC
2015	Leaders and Legacy Society Inductee, American Occupational Therapy Foundation
2014	Terry Brittell Award for OTA/OT Partnership, American Occupational Therapy Association
2008	Accessible Cities Alliance 2008 Ambassador of the Year Award, City of Joliet, IL

1999	HealthSouth Rehabilitation Award, American Occupational Therapy Foundation
1986	Roster of Honor, American Occupational Therapy Association
1986	Award of Excellence, American Occupational Therapy Association
1983	Public Awareness Award, Illinois Occupational Therapy Association
1982	COTA of the Year Award, Illinois Occupational Therapy Association

Selected Peer-Reviewed Publications

Eisenberg, Y., Hayes, M., Hofstra, A., Labbé, D., Gould, R., & Jones, R. (2024). Performance Metrics for Implementation of Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plans. *Urban Science*, 8(2), 27.

Y., Hofstra, A., Berquist, S., Gould, R., & Jones, R. (2022). Barrier-removal plans and pedestrian infrastructure equity for people with disabilities. *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, 109, 103356. doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2022.103356>

Gould, R., Mullin, C., Parker Harris, S, and Jones, R. (2021). "Building, sustaining and growing: disability inclusion in business". *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion* <https://doi.org/10.1108/EDI-06-2020-0156>

Gould, R., Heider, A., Parker Harris, S., Jones, R., Peters, J., Eisenberg, Y., and Caldwell, K. (In Press, 2021). Self-Determination and Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology in Postsecondary Education. *Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability*.

Gould, R, Parker Harris, S, Mullin, C, Jones, R (2020). Disability, Diversity, and Corporate Social Responsibility: Learning from Recognized Leaders in Inclusion, *Journal Vocational Rehabilitation*. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation* 52 (2020) 29–42

Eisenberg, Y, Heider, A, Gould, R, Jones, R (2020) Are communities in the United States planning for pedestrians with disabilities? Findings from a systematic evaluation of local government barrier removal plans, *Cities* 102 (2020) 102720

Bezyak, JL, Sabella, S, Hammel, J, McDonald, K, Jones, RA & Barton, D (2019). Community participation and public transportation barriers experienced by people with disabilities, *Disability and Rehabilitation*, DOI: 10.1080/09638288.2019.1590469

Harris, S.P., Gould, R. G., Ojok, P., Fujiura, G, Jones, R., Olmstead VI, A. (2014) Scoping Review of the Americans with Disabilities Act: What Research Exists, and Where do we go from Here?; *Society Disability Studies Quarterly*, Vol 34, No 3

Research Reports

S. Magasi, S, Marshall, H, Ramierz, R, Wanjagua, R, Webster, S, Vincent, A, Jones, R (2021). Enforceable Accessible Medical Equipment Standards, National Council on Disability, May 20, 2021 Available Online at: <https://ncd.gov/publications/2021/enforceable-accessible-medical-equipment-standards>

Metropolitan Planning Council and Great Lakes ADA Center Center(2021) [Where the sidewalk ends: The state of municipal ADA transition planning for the public right-of-way in the Chicago region.](#)

Ongoing Research Support

90DPAD0012 Jones (PI)
ADA National Network, Region V ADA Center

2021-2026

Project Funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, Rehabilitation and Research, Agency on Community Living
Role: Principal Investigator

90DPAD0001 Hammel/Frieden (PI) 2022-2027
Americans with Disabilities Act Participation Action Research Consortium (ADA PARC):
Advancing Participation Equity for People with Disabilities
Project Funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, Rehabilitation and Research, Agency on Community Living
Role: Co-Investigator