**EDUCATION**

**2022 - PhD in Epidemiology, Medical University of South Carolina**

* Thesis: “Genetic variation within nicotine addiction pathways in relation to smoking cessation and smoking relapse throughout adulthood: A longitudinal study of female registered nurses”

**2017 – M.A. in Christian Apologetics, Biola University**

**2005 – M.S. in Management and Financial Management, University of Maryland**

**2000 – B.S. in Naval Architecture/Engineering, United States Naval Academy**

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

**2022 – Present: Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health, Baylor University, Waco TX**

* Establish and conduct an epidemiology research program related to understanding risk factors of substance use with a specific focus on genetic factors and the interaction between genetics and environmental determinants
* Teach undergraduate and graduate epidemiology, data analysis, and public health courses and contribute to program and course development
* Mentor graduate students in the Department of Public Health
* Provide service to the Department of Public Health, Baylor University, and research related professional organizations

**2019-2020: Graduate Research Assistant, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston SC**

* Assist in research funded through the Improving Minority Health in Rheumatic Disease (I aM HeaRD) Agency: NIH/NIAMS, P30 PI: Dr. Gary Gilkeson
* Research projects were focused on improving health disparities in rheumatic disease.
* Provide quantitative guidance to clinical and basic science faculty in the rheumatology research base including assistance with data management, design and analysis support for research studies, grant preparation, and dissemination of findings.

**2011-2018: Professional Triathlete and Coach, Kiev, Ukraine, Prague, Czechia, & Charleston SC**

* Member of professional triathlon team: traveling and racing globally including Australia, New Zealand, Eastern, Central and Western Europe, and the United States.
* Trained for and competed in world class swim, bike, and run events. Specialize in Half-Ironman (1.2 mile swim, 56 mile bike, 13.1 mile run) and Ironman (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike, 26.2 mile run) events. Personal best 9 hour 13 minute Ironman, 4 hour 24 minute Half Ironman.
* Applied physiological research on human performance and endurance athlete health to provide coaching services to amateur triathletes and runners.

**2008-2011: Financial Management Specialist, Performance Management Consultants, NetStar-1, BAE Systems, Washington, DC**

* Conducted contract work with the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Office of Financial Management.
* Conducted monthly reconciliations between government agencies to ensure reciprocal account balances were correct. Audited the Intergovernmental Payment and Collection System, government payment vouchers and transactions, and U.S. Standard General Ledger (USSGL) accounting systems.
* Researched obligation and appropriations data to ensure transactions were posted to the Federal Financial Management System (USSGL government accounting system) correctly and reconciled discrepancies.
* Zero unresolved discrepancies throughout tenure.

**2005-2008**

**Accountant:** Conducted accounting and billing functions for 3 small corporations valued at over $1.5 million.

**Professional athlete:** Sole proprietor of coaching and personal training business in Northern Virginia while training for and competing in world class swim, bike, and run events.

**Faculty adjunct, University of Maryland University College Graduate School**

* Assisted in teaching the Graduate School Financial Management Capstone course coordinating computer-based business simulations for classes of 20 - 30 students.
* Mentored students in financial decision making for the class business simulation, assisted with group communication and coordination, and resolved inter-group conflicts
* Evaluated research and functional papers for financial analysis accuracy
* Lead professor received the best student ratings in 20+ years career during my tenure as assistant faculty

**2000 – 2005: Captain, United States Marine Corps**

**2003-2004: Logistics Officer, MCAS Futenma, Okinawa, JP**

* Coordinated all logistic support and maintenance efforts for squadron of 200+ personnel
* Coordinated movement of personnel and equipment from Okinawa, Japan to various locations in the Republic of Korea, Philippines, Thailand, and the United States
* Managed maintenance and readiness of over 260 pieces of equipment, average readiness over 94%
* Ranked #1 of 11 First Lieutenants on staff, and noted as “the finest junior officer I have served with in my 26 years on active duty” by the Squadron Executive Officer
* Ranked #1 of 14 First Lieutenants by the Squadron Commander who noted that, “1st Lt Jones is a fire and forget weapon” (a military euphemism meaning “a consistent performer who can be assigned a difficult task and will complete it above expectation without direct supervision”)
* Received Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for a significant unit deployment in support of a national high priority exercise

**2003: Company Executive Officer, MCAS Futenma, Okinawa, JP**

* Supervised over 80 personnel, handling administrative issues and training
* Served as Company Commander and Executive Officer for a 4 month period, preparing over 80 personnel for deployment to a high priority exercise in the Republic of Korea
* Ranked as #1 of 7 First Lieutenants by direct supervisor, and #2 of 13 by senior rater

**2002-2003: Administration Officer, MCAS Futenma, Okinawa, JP**

* Responsible for the operation of an Administration Office for over 250 personnel
* In this position was ranked #1 of 9 First Lieutenants, and noted as “the front runner among peers” by senior reporting official

**2001-2005: Air Support Control Officer, MCAS Futenma, Okinawa, JP**

* Responsible for establishing communication with aircraft, managing aircraft employment, control of aircraft, and information management
* Served as detachment Officer in Charge for deployment of 15 Marines to Hawaii and deployment of 5 Marines to Yuma, AZ

**Academic Funding Awards**

* Scholarship Award, University of Washington Summer Institute for Statistical Genetics, 2021
* Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), Hollings Cancer Center (NCI-designated cancer center) Abney Pre-doctoral Fellowship (2020 – present)
* MUSC, South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Center TL1 Pre-doctoral Fellowship (2018-19)
* Merit Scholarship, University of Maryland University College, 2004

**Academic Honors & Awards**

* 2-year appointment to Board of Directors of MUSC Waring Historical Library, 2020-2021
* Blue Ribbon award for pre-doctoral fellow first-author abstract, Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) national conference, 2019
* First place research poster presentation, MUSC Student Research Day, 2018
* First place research paper competition, Biola University Science and Religion/Christian Apologetics, 2016

**Miltary Honors & Awards**

* Navy Commendation Medal, 2005,
* Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, 2004
* National Defense Medal, 2001-2005

**Research Poster Presentations**

**Jones S.**,Korte J, Wilson D. “Risk of substance abuse onset in adults diagnosed with epilepsy or migraine.” Annual meeting of Association of Clinical and Translational Research, 2019.

**Jones S.**, Wolf B., Alberg A. “A Longitudinal Study of the Association of *CHRNA5* SNP rs16969968 With Smoking Cessation Throughout Adulthood.” Annual meeting of Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, 2020.

**Jones S.**, Wolf B., Alberg A. “Variants in nicotinic acetylcholine receptor and dopaminergic genes in relation to smoking relapse and proportion of time in relapse throughout adulthood in female nurses.” Annual meeting of American Society of Human Genetics, 2021.

**Invited Oral Presentations**

**Jones S.**, Alberg A, Wolf B. “A Longitudinal Study of Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor (nAChR) Gene Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms with Smoking Cessation Throughout Adulthood.” MUSC Hollings Cancer Center LowVelo Symposium

**Invited Lecturer**

Guest lecturer for MUSC graduate-level Introduction to Public Health Course. The lecture, titled “Public Health Statistics & Data Resources”, introduced the Master in Public Health students to basic epidemiology statistics and study design as well as existing data resources for disease surveillance and public health research.

**Published Manuscripts**

Alberg, A.J., **Jones, S.**, Akonde, M., Das Gupta, R. and Hartsell, R. (2021), The enduring need for prospective cohort studies to more completely characterize the tobacco-caused burden of cancer. *Int. J. Cancer*, 149: 982-983, doi: 10.1002/ijc.33694

**Jones S.**, Wolf B., Froeliger B., Carpenter M., Wallace K., Alberg A. (2021), Nicotine metabolism predicted by CYP2A6 genotypes in relation to smoking cessation: A systematic review. *Nicotine Tob. Res*, 2021; ntab175, doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntab175. PMID: 34478556.

**Jones S.**, Wolf B., Froeliger B., Carpenter M., Wallace K., Alberg A. (2022), A systematic review of genetic variation within nicotinic acetylcholine receptor genes and cigarette smoking cessation. *Drug Alcohol Depend*. 2022 Oct 1;239:109596. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2022.109596. Epub 2022 Aug 5. PMID: 35981468.

**Manuscripts Under Review**

**Jones S.**, Alberg A., Wallace K., Froeliger B., Carpenter M., Wolf B., “Associations between *CHRNA5-A3-B4 and DRD2* single nucleotide polymorphisms and smoking cessation throughout adulthood: a longitudinal study of female registered nurses.” First revision under review in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*.

**Jones S.**, Alberg A., Wallace K., Froeliger B., Carpenter M., Wolf B., “Variants in nicotinic acetylcholine receptor and dopaminergic genes in relation to smoking relapse and proportion of time in relapse throughout adulthood in female nurses.” First revision under review in *Cancer Prevention Research*.

**Manuscripts in Preparation**

**Jones S.,** Korte J., Wilson D., “Hazard of substance abuse onset among adults diagnosed with epilepsy or migraine.”

**Jones S.**, Wolf B., Froeliger B., Carpenter M., Wallace K., Alberg A. “Variation within *DRD2*, *COMT*, and *DBH* and smoking cessation: A systematic review.”

**Jones S.**, Alberg A., Carpenter M., Wallace K., Froeliger B., Wolf B. “Candidate gene study of smoking cessation throughout adulthood: A longitudinal study of women.”

**Additional Life Experience**

Volunteer with Girls on the Run non-profit organization: Coaching 4-5th grade girls to successfully complete a 5K run event while incorporating teaching on self-esteem, anti-bullying, and other interpersonal skills.

Spouse of U.S. Diplomat serving overseas:

* 2011-2014 Kiev, Ukraine
* 2014-2017 Prague, Czechia