Dr. Lucile Jones
Full Biography

Dr. Lucile (Lucy) Jones is the founder of the Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society, with a mission to foster the understanding and application of scientific information in the creation of more resilient communities, and a Research Associate at the Seismological Laboratory of Caltech. Working with both the public and private sectors, Dr. Jones seeks to increase communities' ability to adapt and be resilient to the dynamic changes of the world around them.

Dr. Jones is a fourth generation Southern Californian. She received a Bachelor of Arts Magna Cum Laude in Chinese Language and Literature from Brown University and a Ph.D. in Geophysics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, MA in 1981. In 1979, she was chosen to be the first American scientist to go to China after normalization of relations as a Fulbright Fellow, and spent a total of 12 months between 1979 and 1983 conducting research on Chinese earthquakes with colleagues at the Chinese Eq Authority in Beijing.

After 2 years as a Lamont Fellow post-doctoral researcher at Columbia University, Dr. Jones took a position as a researcher with the U.S. Geological Survey, stationed at the Seismological Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology in 1983. She stayed in Pasadena throughout her career serving a variety of roles. In the first 15 years at the USGS, she worked as a researcher in seismology, developing methodologies for assessing the short-term changes in the earthquake hazard during earthquake crises that have been used repeatedly in California to advise the government and the public and worked with and supervised the operations of the Southern California Seismic Network. For 8 years, she served as the Scientist-in-charge of the Pasadena office of the USGS. She helped create the California Integrated Seismic Network, uniting the seismic monitoring of the USGS, Caltech, UC Berkeley and the California Geological Survey, and began the Urban Earth Initiative to bring together multidisciplinary teams of scientists conducting research in Southern California.

In 2007, Jones proposed and was asked to lead the Multi Hazards Demonstration Project, to demonstrate how hazards science can improve the Southern California community's resiliency to natural hazards, by directing new and existing research towards the community's needs, improving monitoring technology, producing innovative products, and enhancing dissemination of the results. Dr. Jones created and implemented a new systematic approach to risk assessment research, building strong partnerships with engineers, social scientists, geographers, biologists, public health doctors, emergency managers, and public officials, integrating their expertise into state-of-the-art investigations to develop a comprehensive depiction of the probable consequences of catastrophic natural disasters – a southern San Andreas Fault earthquake (ShakeOut), a California statewide winter storm (ARkStorm), and an Alaskan tsunami (the SAFRR Tsunami Scenario).

The ShakeOut scenario has changed the culture of preparedness and the way decision makers use scientific data about earthquake risk. Based on her work, several southern California utilities are moving forward with risk reduction projects, and FEMA used the scenario as the basis for their catastrophe modeling for the region. In addition, Dr. Jones developed a public education campaign and earthquake drill in conjunction with the ShakeOut scenario. Started in California in 2008, the ShakeOut drill has grown to over 60 million participants worldwide in 2019.

In 2014, Dr. Jones served as the Science Advisor for Seismic Safety to Mayor Eric Garcetti and the City of Los Angeles. Her consensus approach involved assembling task forces to develop solutions informed by the best available science and engineering and convening stakeholders in the State's utilities to address vulnerabilities. Results included a comprehensive program to strengthen the water infrastructure in the City and ordinances to mandate the retrofit of older structures and all the proposed ordinances were passed unanimously.

Dr. Jones has served on multiple committees of the National Academy of Sciences addressing hazard issues. She has chaired the California Seismic Safety Commission and served for 12 years on the California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council (CEPEC). She has served on blue-ribbon commissions impaneled by state and local governments to address major infrastructure projects and other high-profile endeavors. Her work has been recognized with the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal, the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award and Distinguished Service Award, the Alquist Award from the California Earthquake Safety Foundation, the William Rodgers Award from the Brown University Alumni Association, the Shoemaker Award for Lifetime Achievements in Science Communication from the USGS, the Ambassador Award from the American Geophysical Union, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Western States Seismic Policy Council, the 2017 Distinguished Lecture Award of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, the 2018 Frank Press Medal from the Seismological Society of America and most recently, the 2019 Community Leadership Award from Leadership California.

After completing her federal service in 2016, Dr. Jones founded the Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society, to foster the understanding and application of science in the creation of more resilient communities. Projects include working with elected officials to understand and create seismic resilience programs, training young scientists in working with decision makers and developing community based programs for resilience. Dr. Jones has also pursued other interests, including authoring **The Big Ones:** How natural disasters have shaped us (and what we can do about them). Published by Doubleday in 2018, the book was an Amazon Best Science Book of 2018. She has also focused on performing on the viol with Los Angeles Baroque, and composed a piece for four viols on climate change, *In Nomine Terra Calens*, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4plSXjcjxVA