

George C. Eickwort Student Research Award

This award is given in memory of George Eickwort and is designed to recognize exceptional research by students in the field of social insect biology. The award consists of a certificate, an honorarium, and a one-year subscription to *Insectes Sociaux*. This year's Selection Committee consisted of Phil Starks, Ulrich Mueller, Bryan Danforth and myself (Kenna MacKenzie) – I thank Phil, Bryan and Ulrich for their efforts.

General Statement

The North American Section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects is proud to announce that **Heather Mattila, PhD (2005), University of Guelph** was selected as the recipient of the **2006 Eickwort Student Award**. This year the excellent quality of the nominees for the Eickwort Student Award made it a difficult decision; however, Heather stood out in particular for her publication record and exceptional participation in both academic and outreach activities.

Heather Mattila received a PhD, Environmental Biology, University of Guelph, Ontario where she was a student of Gard Otis. Her PhD research examined resource limitation in honey bees, focusing on the role of pollen in the production and quality of winter and spring worker bees and on drone quality. In recognition of the quality of her dissertation, the University of Guelph nominated her for national distinction in Canada. Since 1998, she has published fourteen scientific papers (nine as first author) and has two more in review, and has made over twenty presentations at scientific conferences. Heather also is recognized as an excellent teacher, and has been active in service to her university and to societies. These achievements are perhaps best stated by one of her references as follows “fine academic scientist and superb spokesman for science”. Heather is currently working with Tom Seeley at Cornell University studying the effects of polyandry on colony function under a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Post-Doctoral Fellowship. The Award Committee is very pleased to announce that Heather Mattila is the recipient of the 2006 Eickwort Student Award.