

**2007 William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Award: Presented to Matthew Tarver by Kenna MacKenzie**

This award is named in honor of the late Bill Nutting, an outstanding termite biologist who made major contributions to termite biology, both through his own research and mentoring of students, and in honor of Ruth Nutting for her support of Bill's work. It is given to the NAS/IUSSI student member who shows the most distinguished record of research in the area of basic termite biology. The award consists of a plaque and a research grant of \$1,000. This year's Selection Committee consisted of Michael Haverty, Ed Vargo, Ruth Nutting and myself (Kenna MacKenzie).

There were outstanding nominees for the Nutting Award again this year. However, one individual stood out. The North American Section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects is proud to announce that **Matthew Tarver** was selected as the recipient of the **2007 William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Award**. Matthew's research focuses on termite caste differentiation using a wide range of physiological, biochemical and molecular tools. He has six (three as first author) research publications in excellent journals and has demonstrated outreach to the scientific, pest control industry and greater entomological community.

**Matthew Tarver** is a student of Michael Scharf at the University of Florida in Gainesville. His PhD research is investigating socio-environmental, hormonal and molecular factors that interact to regulate caste differentiation in *Reticulitermes*. His research in basic termite biology, particularly identification of genes, should lead to new novel termiticides. His reference writes of Matthew "a gifted young scientist in that he displays a high level of creativity and a unique ability to synthesize basic questions with relevant applied outcomes". For these reasons, the Award Committee is very pleased to announce that Matthew Tarver is the recipient of the 2007 William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Award.

Congratulations Matthew! And, many thanks to Mike, Ed, Ruth and Kenna for their help.