



## 2016 William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Research Grant

Recipient - *Mark Janowiecki*

This award is named in honor of the late Bill Nutting and his ever-supportive wife Ruth. Bill was an outstanding termite biologist who made major contributions to termite biology, both through his own research and mentoring of students. The award's purpose is to support research by graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the field of basic termite biology.

The winner of the 2016 William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Research Grant is **Mark Janowiecki**. He will receive a \$2,500 grant to support his proposed research. Mark is a member of the IUGA and holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Entomology, from Ohio State University and the University of Arkansas, respectively. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in entomology under the direction of Prof. Ed Vargo at Texas A&M University. Mark's Nutting Research Grant proposal is entitled "Inter- and intra-specific interactions in subterranean termites, *Reticulitermes*." In it he proposes to map colony boundaries of different *Reticulitermes* species and to determine the degree of aggression between colonies of the same and different species, as well as to assess patterns of avoidance behavior in field colonies that may minimize agonistic encounters. Mark has produced a compelling and well laid out research plan to answer a fundamental biological question that also has strong potential to contribute to improved control of termite pests. For these reasons, the awards committee was pleased to choose Mark as the recipient of the 2016 Nutting award.