



## **2016 Tschinkel Ant Natural History Research Grant**

### **Recipient - *Brian Haney***

The Tschinkel Fund was set up by Walter and Victoria Tschinkel to encourage graduate student research into basic natural history and biology of ants (in the broad sense), areas that have often been neglected.

The winner of the 2016 Tschinkel Ant Natural History Research Grant is **Brian Haney**. He will receive a \$2,500 grant to support his proposed research. Brian is a member of the IUGA and holds a Bachelor's degree from Trinity College in San Antonio, Texas, awarded in 2008. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Animal Behavior at Arizona State University in Tempe, under the direction of Prof. Jennifer Fewell. Brian's Tschinkel Grant proposal is entitled "The evolution and function of cooperation in unrelated ant queens." In it he proposes an impressive and well-designed plan to test the importance of resource availability to variation in reproductive output among monogynous and polygynous colonies of a behaviorally polymorphic species. Brian's proposal was judged the best of six strong candidates for its application of a rigorous experimental plan to a fundamental natural history question. With so many good proposals, the decision was not easy, but the committee agreed that Brian is the most worthy recipient of this year's Tschinkel Research Grant.