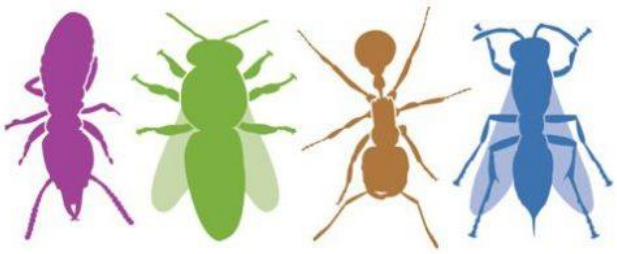

The Robert L. and Louise B. Jeanne Social Wasp Research Grant supports graduate student research on any aspect of the basic biology of social wasps. It is given annually to a student whose proposed research shows the greatest potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of social wasps. The 2018 winner of the Jeanne Grant is **Mateus Fajardo de Freitas Salviato Detoni**, who will receive a $2,500 grant to support his research. Mateus is a member of the IUSSI and Ph. D. student under the guidance of Jenny Jandt at the University of Otago in New Zealand. He received his bachelor's (licenciatura) and master's degrees in biology from the Federal University Juiz de Fora in Brazil. The title of Mateus' project is, "The influence of population density on the aggression behavior of *Vespula* social wasps." New Zealand has long been conceptualized as a unique 'test case' for evolution because of its ancient separation from other land masses. Now, New Zealand is a test case for invasion biology, including of aggressive *Vespula* social wasps. Mateus will take advantage of the density at which these wasps live in the northern part of New Zealand's South Island and manipulate density – examining whether these manipulations have an effect on colony-level aggression. The project is a component of his dissertation aimed at examining both individual- and colony-level aggression and how they interact (including interactions with the environment). The awards committee was excited about the focus on basic natural history in this proposal, but also that the knowledge of natural history gained would help inform eco-evolutionary questions (individual-colony dynamics) and applied questions, such as the destructive impacts of these wasps on a sensitive native flora and fauna.

IUSSI-NAS Awards Committee
Rebecca Clark, Christina Kwapich, Hongmei Li-Byarlay, Juergen Liebig, Juliana Rangel, and Chris Smith