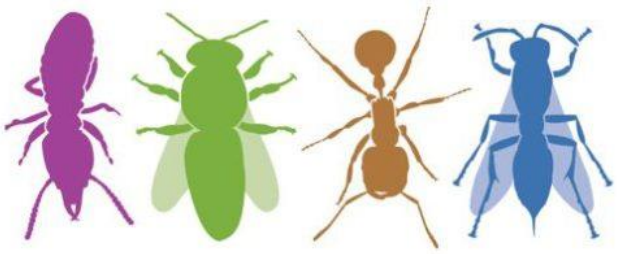

The Robert L. and Louise B. Jeanne Social Wasp Research Grant supports graduate student research on any aspect of the basic biology of social wasps. It is given annually to a student whose proposed research shows the greatest potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of social wasps. The 2019 winner of the Jeanne Grant is **Andrew Legan,** who will receive a $2,500 grant to support his research. Andrew is a member of the IUSSI and Ph.D. student under the guidance of Michael Sheehan at the Cornell University. He received his bachelor's in Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology from the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. The title of Andrew's project is, "Ontogeny of nestmate recognition in *Polistes fuscatus*." The project is a component of his dissertation on understanding the mechanisms and evolution of nestmate recognition in paper wasps, using *Polistes fuscatus* as a model. This work seeks to build on a solid foundation of knowledge on nestmate recognition in paper wasps in the literature, with a combination of novel experiments coupled with modern techniques. Specifically, Andrew seeks to pinpoint the genetic determinants of wasp cuticular hydrocarbon (CHC) profiles, ascertain how individual CHC profiles develop, and understand how specific environmental factors and nest characteristics contribute to these profiles.

The awards committee was not only excited about the focus on the basic science of behavioral ecology in this proposal, but also that the proposed chemical and molecular tools to study the proximate and ultimate explanations of nestmate recognition would help inspire new questions in behavioral ecology and evolution of social wasps.

IUSSI-NAS Awards Committee
Rebecca Clark, Hongmei Li-Byarlay, and Juliana Rangel Posada (Co-Chairs)

Kaitlin Mari Baudier, Sarah Bengston, Christina Kwapich, and Juergen Liebig