

IUSSI-NAS

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL INSECTS, NORTH AMERICAN SECTION



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: The Robert L. and Louise B. Jeanne Social Wasp Research Grant Due April 15, 2025

Purpose: This grant is endowed by Robert L. and Louise B. Jeanne to encourage graduate student research into any aspect of the basic biology of social wasps. The award will be given to the IUSSI-NAS student member whose research has the greatest potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of the basic biology of this group.

Nature: The recipient will receive 1) a research grant of up to \$2,500 that can be applied toward research expenses, including equipment, travel for field work, and the hiring of field assistance, and 2) a free membership to IUSSI-NAS in 2025. Please note that this grant is to be given to an individual researcher and no overhead will be allowed. The winner will be announced by May 20, 2025. Information on previous recipients can be found on the IUSSI-NAS website.

Eligibility: Any current graduate student who is conducting research on social wasps is eligible, so long as they have not yet completed their thesis work. Previous award recipients are not eligible for a second award. Applicants are encouraged to join the IUSSI, but membership is not required for consideration. Contact the Secretary (iussi.nas@gmail.com) or visit the website (<http://iussi.cyberbee.net/membership/>) for membership information.

Applications: Proposals are due April 15, 2025. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered. Parts 1-8 of the application should be sent as a single PDF file, in the format described below, to the IUSSI Awards Committee (awards.nas.iussi@gmail.com). Note that a CV is not part of the application, and the awardee will be chosen based on the merit and feasibility of the proposed work, not based on past productivity. Parts 1-5 combined must be no longer than four single spaced pages with a 12 pt font.

1) TITLE.

2) SIGNIFICANCE. Applicants should include the novel aspects of the proposed research, expected contribution(s) to the understanding of wasp social biology (in

the large sense), and relation to previous work. The significance statement should include a clearly stated goal, study species (or multiple species), and justification of research methods.

3) RESEARCH PLAN. Include the particular species to be studied, methods, analyses, and logistics. The project may be the main dissertation topic, or it may be ancillary or supplementary to it.

4) FEASIBILITY. Provide sufficient information to demonstrate the project's feasibility. Provide a timetable that outlines how the necessary work is aligned with the budget size and a clear path to publication. Include the applicant's current position, start date, and anticipated end date and how the timetable fits within the remaining time for the current position.

5) AWARD IMPACT. Provide a brief statement expressing what, if any, challenges the applicant has faced in conducting research thus far (e.g. limited funding, conflicting family obligations, being of an underrepresented group in science, COVID19-related slowdowns). Explain the anticipated positive impacts this award would have on the applicant's research and career.

6) CITATIONS. Provide these in the format used by the Entomological Society of America.

7) BUDGET. Include projected costs and justification of items where appropriate. State any other supporting funds that will be used (this can impact feasibility). If currently funded by other grants or other means (including awards or start-up funds of graduate adviser), explain how the proposed work is connected or independent. Travel expenses are allowed but must be detailed.

8) LETTER OF SUPPORT. This is to be written by the applicant's advisor and sent directly to awards.nas.iussi@gmail.com. Note: This is not a traditional letter of recommendation and length does not necessarily convey your level of support.

Please address the following:

- Is there adequate support and basic resources to complete the proposed project?
- What is the level of independence of the proposed project from your research program?
- Is this student making appropriate progress on their degree and in good academic standing?
- When is the student anticipated to graduate, and will this give sufficient time to complete the proposed project?

Report: A condition of the grant is that the recipient provides a report on the results of their research. Ideally, this will be a 10-minute oral report at the next annual meeting of the IUSSEI-NAS. If the recipient is not able to attend this meeting, a 1-page written report must be submitted for publication in the society newsletter.