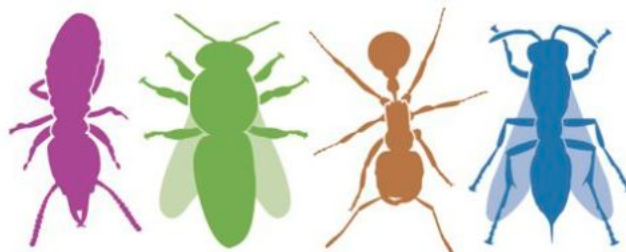


# IUSSI-NAS

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

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## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: The William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Termite Research Grant Due April 15, 2025**

**Purpose:** This grant supports research by graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the field of basic termite biology. Projects with an applied slant may be considered if the primary question is related to basic biology. The William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Research Grant 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.

**Nature:** The recipient will receive 1) a research grant of up to \$2,500 to be applied toward covering research expenses, 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 or postdoctoral fellow conducting research on termite biology is eligible. Applicants are encouraged to join the IUSSI, but membership is not required for consideration. Contact the Secretary ([iussi.nas@gmail.com](mailto:iussi.nas@gmail.com)) or visit the website (<http://iussi.cyberbee.net/membershipx/>) 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-NAS Awards Committee ([awards.nas.iussi@gmail.com](mailto: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 theory and applied (if relevant) aspects of termite biology, and relation to previous work. Proposals should focus on a discrete project, comparable to what might constitute a single publication. The significance

statement should include a clearly stated hypothesis and predictions, and a justification of the methods planned to test these. Taxonomic projects should also involve clear questions, hypotheses, and predicted evidence, and applicants for this type of project must demonstrate some understanding of taxonomic theory and methodology, especially molecular techniques. Similarly, applicants for survey projects must clearly identify the biological problems to be solved. Projects that merely involve “finding out what is there” (important as that may be) will not be funded.

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](mailto: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 IUSSI-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.