

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 10, 2026

President Guskiewicz called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 9:00 a.m.

Trustees present: Rebecca Bahar-Cook, Mike Balow, Dennis Denno, Renee Knake Jefferson, Sandy Pierce, Brianna Scott, Kelly Tebay (Zoom), and Rema Vassar (Zoom).

University officers present: President Guskiewicz, Provost and Executive Vice President McIntyre; Senior Vice President Frace; Executive Vice President Gore; Vice President and General Counsel Quinn; Secretary Fletcher; Vice Presidents Batt, Beekman, DeVooght, Priya, Swain and Tobin. Faculty liaisons present: John Aerni-Flessner, Justin St. Charles. Student liaisons present: Sarah Fireberg, Kathryn Harding, Priyanka Kothari, and Lauren Pelon.

President Guskiewicz provided the following statement.

Good morning, and welcome to the April 10, 2026, meeting of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. It's great to see everyone, and I'm going to we're going to jump right into the agenda.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present, unless otherwise noted.

1. On a motion by Trustee Scott, supported by Trustee Tebay, the **BOARD VOTED to approve** the proposed agenda.
2. President's Report

We're going to jump in and start with some updates from campus, and it's great to see everyone, and it's great to see so many students here and our world class faculty. And this is the, as I like to say, the season of recognitions and celebrations, and it's my favorite time of the year to celebrate the many accomplishments that that take place here at Michigan State University. And we started celebrating very, very early this morning as Provost McIntyre and Dr. Travis and several others inducted academically excelling Spartans into the MSU Tower Guard at about 6:45 a.m., this morning. I'm sorry it felt like earlier, but many of you have had the opportunity to meet members of the Tower Guard. These are wonderful examples of Spartan engagement in the well-being of our community, supporting our Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities by tutoring, scribing for exams and generally building a more inclusive campus environment. And so, congratulations

to all of those newly inducted Tower Guard members. This is the time of the academic year that we like to recognize and celebrate honorees representing a wide array of academic departments, and it was a thrill recently to join fellow university and college leaders in a surprise visit to Dr. Gabe Orting's insect sustainability lecture, in a large lecture hall, to announce his selection as this year's President's Distinguished Teaching Award honoree. He's made a huge impression as an inspirational science instructor and an innovative and supportive partner to his colleagues. And as we walked in there, the provost, the dean, the dean of, Mark Largent, Dean of Undergraduate Education, walked in there, in this large lecture hall, and the shock on his face, I don't know what he thought we were coming to do. I can only imagine, but it was, it was good news, not bad news for Dr. Orting and so that's one of my favorite day's...events of the year. We recently also learned that nine MSU researchers were elected to the 2025 fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, one of the world's largest and most respected scientific societies. These extraordinary faculty members were recognized for their work in education, chemistry, cancer studies, biological and medical sciences, physics, agriculture, food and renewable resources. So, congratulations to all of our Spartan honorees for that event and that wonderful accolade, and for all those that were honoring this season. Want to say a little bit about graduation. It's also the season that we celebrate our incredible students who will be graduating, and this is probably when, many would say, the biggest of all celebrations of Spartan excellence, the spring commencement ceremonies. These are coming up in just a few weeks, and I'm excited to host this year's featured speakers at Cowles House. We're honored to have Governor Gretchen Whitmer back on campus as our guest speaker for our undergraduate convocation. So, we're announcing that for the first time here, there will be an article, press release coming out later today. She is, of course, a proud Spartan, a two, two-time, I call her a super Spartan because she has two degrees from MSU, and a long time Michigan lawmaker, had the chance to talk with Governor Whitmer twice in the last 10 days, and I will just tell you she's very excited about joining us on campus to send our graduates off in just about three weeks. Speaking to our master's and educational specialist commencement ceremony will be Christopher Fernandez. Again, a Spartan alum and an experienced Human Resources executive, previously with Microsoft and in the automotive and technologies industries broadly speaking. So, he'll be again, speaking to our master's and educational specialists. And then speaking to our doctoral degree commencement, at that ceremony will be University Distinguished Professor Ann Austin, who many of you here know, Dr. Austin. She's an incredible ambassador for the university, and she'll be speaking at the doctoral degree ceremony, and Dr. Austin is, as you well know, a long-time faculty member, distinguished faculty member in the College of Education, and she'll deliver that keynote message, again, in about three weeks. So, I look forward to congratulating all of our graduates and hope to see many of you at these various ceremonies that we'll have. We'll also again have our Beaumont Tower climb, which tradition that I started three years ago, where we will allow graduates to climb Beaumont Tower, to head to the top, to meet the carillonist up there to see the view, beautiful view of campus from the top of the

tower. And so, we'll be that is on the schedule for the week leading up to graduation. Today, we'll begin our own salute to our spring graduates with board recognition of more than 300 graduates who earned perfect 4.0 grades on their way to their undergraduate degrees, and that's a big accomplishment, and so congratulations to all of those students who earned the 4.0 during their time here. We've already marked a milestone for 427 of our medical students from the College of Human Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine when they recently learned of their residency locations as they began that will begin their medical careers, and so, congratulations to all of those soon to be physicians. As you may know, we have the largest combined class of medical students in Michigan and one of the largest nationally, I would argue the largest about 510 to 520 graduating physicians every year. And we have match rates that that rank above the national average for both our osteopathic medicine pathway and our MD pathway. So again, congrats to all of those who recently matched. In the category of supporting students, this week, in fact, we're celebrating Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week. I talk often about the importance of graduate students on our campus being that link between our undergraduates with many of our graduate students serving as teaching assistants but also linking back to the important work that our world class faculty researchers conduct. They keep the research enterprise going in many of our laboratories across campus. So, they are our graduate students are truly a key element of a university's excellence. Again, supporting faculty research, mentoring undergraduate students and innovating in their disciplines as they train to become the next academic, scientific or industry leaders. And I had a great time on Monday morning serving pancakes to graduate students, Pancakes with the President, I think Provost McIntyre, the next day, had Pretzels with the Provost, with our graduate students, just getting to know them and thanking them for the important role that they play here on our campus, and so for those of you in the room that serve in those roles, we are grateful. So, thanks for all that you do. A little about rankings. This is also the season in which we have U.S. News and World Report, and a number of other ranking agencies put their latest rankings out. And the quality of our graduate degree programs, I think, is a distinct point of pride for us here at Michigan State. And earlier this week, we announced U.S. News and World Report's latest graduate program rankings. Among the highlights, our College of Education has three graduate programs ranked number one in the country, with nine programs in the Top 10 nationwide, our colleges of business, engineering and nursing also had multiple graduate programs in the Top 50. And so, I think, as the provost just started the clap. Congratulations to all of our highly ranked programs which helped position our great university among the very best in the nation, and it takes a one team approach, to make that work. It starts with our world class faculty and recruiting the, and our deans and that help us to recruit those world class faculty and that become a talent attractor for us here, with all our students. So again, congratulations. And speaking of MSU program excellence, I'd like to recognize a truly extraordinary act of generosity, one that reflects both the strength of this institution and the momentum that we're building together through our comprehensive campaign, Uncommon Will, Far Better World. And earlier this

week, we announced a transformational, \$47 million commitment to the School of Packaging from Chuck and Jackie Frasier. And I think this deserves a round of applause. I don't know if Dean Daum is here or not, but he has worked really hard with the Frasier family, alongside Kim Tobin and others, to land this incredible gift. This is among the five largest private gifts ever to Michigan State University, and certainly the largest gift in the history of our packaging program, which is, as you may know, the oldest, largest, and leading packaging program in the country, and it comes at exactly the right moment. A fun story, I was in Chicago, we were there for the Big Ten Tournament, and I was coming back from a dinner, coming back into the hotel, and I had my Spartan logo on, and there was a gentleman with an English accent who asked if I was in town for the Packaging Summit. And I said, no, I'm not, but maybe I should be, and he said, well, you know that school there? Do you go there? Do you live there? I decided not to share what I thought, the thought I looked young enough that maybe I still was a student there. I felt good about that. At any rate, he said, you know that Michigan State has the best packaging program in the world, and I've often described it as the best in the country, but I'm going to go with the best in the world, but English accent was coming from the UK to a summit in Chicago, where he knew that our program was the top program in the world. So, at any rate, a fun story. Moving on, a little over two years ago, the board of trustees authorized planning to double the size of the of that facility, expanding its research capacity and more, and so this transformative gift will create world class research environments, particularly in sustainability, while enabling us to grow our faculty, expand graduate education, and deepen industry partnerships. And if you think about how many industries rely on packaging of any sort. In fact, I've been told that this was developed right here by a Spartan alumnus. So, at any rate, I want to extend our deepest gratitude to Chuck and Jackie Frasier. Their leadership, generosity, and belief in Michigan State will shape this university in this field for generations to come. I want to say a little about protecting our campus and the importance of safety and continued emphasis that we have on campus safety and today, the board will change the title of the Student Life and Culture committee, adding the word safety to its title. The board has strongly supported maintaining a safe environment for the entire campus community. I want to thank Trustee Denno, who is here, for proposing this title change and joining me a few weeks ago, meeting with Chief Yankowski. There, in that meeting, we reviewed the progress that we've made during the past few years, implementing dozens of improvements and recommendations to enhance campus safety, including through the new security operations center, which we had the opportunity to tour that day. The board, the board support, has been vital to these initiatives around improving campus safety, and it's greatly appreciated. And take this opportunity to thank Chief Yankowski and your team, of which there are several here today with us, for all the hard work that you do to keep our campus safe. This work never ends, as I like to say, and will continue to improve, continue to learn about where further improvements are needed, but I think the renamed board committee provides additional opportunities to continue to work together as one team to support this cause. And as we observe the 25th anniversary of sexual assault awareness month, Michigan State remains

committed to prevention and into working alongside our survivors to promote healing. This afternoon, I'll be joining our prevention outreach and education faculty and staff summit, which helps MSU employees deepen their understanding of sexual violence prevention and how to foster safe and respectful environments, something that is important to everyone here. And we're moving forward with our institutional assessment, focused on relationship violence and sexual misconduct, which I announced last May. It's taken us a little longer to finalize the planning for this important work that our collaborative advisory board helped us identify a firm to help conduct the assessment Guidepost Solutions, which will reach out to university community members and hold town halls and listening sessions in the summer and into the fall semester. And I'll just say what I said that time back in May when we announced this, but these critical initiatives ensure our ongoing efforts are directly informed by the voices and the lived experiences of our Spartan community, as we continue to improve our campus climate. Finally, in looking forward, we'd like to turn to a historical note, you may have read about this, but this month marks the centennial of our identity as Spartans, when our name Spartans, came to be. That's 100 years of Spartan will, as I like to say, in all its forms. So, best wishes to all around the world who proudly bear that name. And yesterday, today, and for the next century, we'll continue to fly the Spartan flag proudly. For the more immediate future, it's going to be a very, very busy few weeks ahead, I've already talked about commencement but just following that we will have our spring Spartan Bus Tour. That will hit the road rolling to Flint and the Bay Region that second week of May. Excited to take sixty-five of our faculty and senior leaders and others to this region of the states and continue to learn about the impact that Michigan State has in these communities but also to identify where we can have an even greater impact in those communities, through our research, teachings, and service. So, I'm looking forward to joining all of you who will join us on that and for those of you who can't join us or will not be on this particular bus tour, we will be updating the community on what we learned in the weeks following that. So, with that, we will continue on with today's agenda. And the minutes? I was so excited about giving updates that I failed to ask to approve the minutes from our February 6th, 2026, meeting. Thank you for that reminder.

3. Consent Agenda

Secretary Fletcher provided the following statement.

Thank you very much. President Guskiewicz, it's there are no public participation items germane today's agenda, to today's agenda. I will just go back up quickly on the meeting protocol side of things, just to note that today's agenda is filled with several significant action items of university business. There are also several speakers, including those who have come for public participation later on. As a framework up front in the event of a disruption that prevents the board from conducting from conducting business or members of the public from hearing or observing, the meeting will be recessed or adjourned. If the meeting is recessed, the board will meet via Zoom within 10 minutes of the recess occurring, and

regrettably, there would be no opportunity for public comment at that stage. Individuals found to be disrupting the meeting would be subject to applicable ordinances and conduct policies. So, just wanted to make sure I covered that. For the consent agenda this morning, the consent agenda is used to group routine items for consideration in one motion, increasing meeting efficiency and allowing more time for items that may require further discussion or attention. The following items are included on this meeting's consent agenda.

A. Approval of the February 6, 2026, Meeting Minutes of the Board of Trustees

B. Gift, Grant and Contract report for the period of January 10, 2026, through March 11, 2026, the report's a compilation of 336 Gifts, Grants and Contracts, plus 12 consignment non cash gifts with a total value of \$343,135,677

C. Personnel Actions and information reports, as included in the board's public meeting packet

Budget and Finance Committee

D. Authorization to Proceed—Spartan Success Center

E. Acceptance of donated land in Escanaba, Michigan

Academic Affairs

F. Revision to Board of Trustees Bylaws Committee on Student Life and Culture

G. There are five naming opportunities that are posted with the Board's public packet:

- MSU Multicultural Center, the naming of the Student Leadership Commons within the MSU Multicultural Center, the Lee N. June Student Leadership Commons
- Composite Materials Research Center, naming of the Composite Materials Research Center within the Leinweber Center for Engineering and Digital Innovation, as the Chin Ling and Sallie Wang Composite Materials Research Center
- Space Electronics Center, naming of the Space Electronics Research Center within the Leinweber Center for Engineering and Digital Innovation, the Chin Ling and Sallie Wang Space Electronics Center
- School of Packaging External Building, naming of the External Building of the School of Packaging 2.0 the Frasier Packaging Research Hub
- Quantum Laboratories, naming of the Quantum Laboratories within the Leinweber Center for Engineering and Digital Innovation, the Randolph Cohen Quantum Laboratories.

Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee

H. Revisions to Board of Trustees Policy 103, BOT Conflict of Interest

I. Conflict of Interest (approval of contract terms) as publicly posted on the Board's website and included with the meeting packet.

That is the proposed consent agenda for this meeting.

On a motion by Bahar-Cook, supported by Trustee Pierce, the **BOARD VOTED to approve** the proposed consent agenda

THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendations.

4. Research Presentation

Vice President Priya introduced Morgan van den Berg, Graduate Student, who gave a presentation on The Human Stakes of Generative AI: Ethical Lessons, Lived Realities, and the Future of Public Relations. (Appendix A)

Prior to the research presentation, President Guskiewicz provided the following remarks.

With that, I'm going to turn to our new Vice President for Research and Innovation, Dr. Shashank Priya, for the first time, he has began in his new role, I believe it was February 16th or thereabouts, and so this marks Dr. Priya's first before our Board of Trustees. And so, welcome. I hope the first several weeks have been good and I appreciate all the hard work you're doing, but you're going to introduce today's presenter.

Vice President Priya provided the following remarks.

Nice. Can you hear me? Okay, there we go. Okay, perfect. yeah, in Minnesota, they say Minnesota nice, but actually, Michigan is super nice. Really great people, had a really great two months here. So, thank you very much everyone for the warm welcome that I've received here. But this morning, we're going to listen to a very fantastic presentation, and I'm going to introduce the speaker for this morning. Each year in April, the Board of Trustees hears directly from the student researchers whose work reflects the depth and creativity and impact of scholarship at MSU. So, it's my pleasure today to introduce Morgan van den Berg, a second-year master's student in the advertising and public relations program in the College of Communications, Arts and Sciences. Morgan is a two-time Spartan having earned her bachelor's degree in Public Relations here at Michigan State as well, and she defended her master's thesis on Wednesday. Morgan's work is grounded in social impact, public relations and academic research. She blends research driven insight with media and PR expertise to explore AI ethics, strategic communication and practical solutions for evolving communication landscapes.

Her work on AI ethics has earned recognition, including the top ethics paper awarded the 2024 International Public Relations Research Conference, and it has been published in the Public Relations Review. In addition to her academic accomplishments, Morgan has served as a learning and research assistant here at MSU, studied abroad in Seoul, South Korea, and now works as a public relations assistant strategist at the public relations agency, Piper and Gold, in Reo Town in Lansing. She has presented her work and served as a panelist at regional, national and international events, including in Bled, Slovenia, Public Relations Society of America, chapters, programs and here at MSU, at the MSU Ignite talk event. So, I'm very pleased to have Morgan join us today and share research. Please join me in welcoming Morgan van den Berg.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments after the presentation.

Questions? I have one, but if anybody wants to jump ahead?

Trustee Balow provided the following comments.

Yeah, I was just gonna say this is one of the things that's on all of our minds, and I appreciate your presentation. You know, I think of what we just did, where we sent humans to the other side of the moon for the first time in 54 years. And what we're trying to do, and the young pioneers that are at this school right now, they're going to be part of that and to the extent this technology is an enabler to all that good stuff and cancer research, it's very exciting, but the care that we have to take with that is tremendous. And I really appreciate your analysis. Thank you.

Morgan van den Berg provided the following response.

Thank you so much.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

I'm just curious, Morgan, first of all, that was fantastic, and I had, we were having dinner about a week ago with the group of students, and we were talking about their research, and I said that, you know, what is it that inspires your curiosity to continue researching the topic that you're that you're studying? And so I'd ask you, what is inspired, from what you've learned to this point, what has inspired your curiosity to ask that next question? What's your next why or why not question around AI based on what you've already learned?

Morgan Van den Berg provided the following response.

I think because I started my research when ChatGPT first launched, and so I've really seen it through on how it's developed and seen that timeline between how there's always been fears, but the way that the fears have developed and transformed is very unique. And within my research, I'm not a quantitative scholar,

I do qualitative research and so having these face-to-face interactions with these PR professionals, even when I started as an undergrad, it helped me have a deeper sense of appreciation and connection with the field. And so having these conversations, I think, just keeps me really motivated and ambitious to continue the conversation and see where gaps I left and see just where the road is taking me.

Trustee Bahar-Cook provided the following comments.

Did you notice any difference in the responses of the participants based on age?

Morgan van den Berg provided the following response.

I would say more so it was actually on seniority. I don't think it was really much on age. I think there is a lot when it comes to organizational culture. There were a lot of leaders who embraced the tools and felt more confident within their job security. And a lot of times they feared more for younger practitioners, and those younger practitioners, they did have those fears, you know, they were greater, and I think for them, they had, I think, you know, we're in a time now where I started this, when I was, a sophomore/junior, and so when ChatGPT had launched, you know, I was already preparing to graduate, but now you have younger practitioners in this field who have been learning and educating directly with it since the beginning. And I think, I think for them that those fears are greater, and they place more value on the human element, whereas with leaders, they're more embraced with the innovation. I had a leader who told me that they had an entire department that was still relying, entirely, on paper, and for her, you know, she was like, how do I do this? So, for in that scenario, you know, she grappled stronger with trying to get her, the younger practitioners to embrace the tools, but it really came down to the leaders, who are those cheerleaders and being innovative.

Trustee Vassar provided the following comments.

Thank you. Thank you so much for your presentation. It was awesome. AI is a big deal in higher ed. We were at a professional conference, oh, maybe last week or the week before, and there were so many sessions on AI, like, there's, it's kind of like the boogeyman in some spaces, and people are terrified in other spaces. So, thank you for just kind of giving us a human aspect to an element, to this to this machine. That is awesome, but also you brought in the ethical concerns. I'm just so glad. I was just so happy and thank you for the qualitative data. Continue to be a quality qualitative researcher. I appreciate that. And you brought in Brené Brown, who would even thought that you would bring in Brené Brown and AI, you did an awesome job. My question is, what finding was most, was most interesting or surprising?

Morgan van den Berg provided the following response.

Um, I think the most surprising thing was, I think that difference between the human, the human element, like where people place human value. Everyone agreed that, you know, we need human value within the work, and we talk a lot about ethics, but then you also have a lot of these constraints, and I think hypocrisy and contradictions within it. And so, seeing those differences between how leaders and younger practitioners approach the conversation with me, but also recognizing too their organizational culture to begin with, was really fascinating to me. And I just loved knowing that with how much pressure and I think competition there is, within our, at least within our field, with standards of developing ethical guidelines, that's really not the point. You know, it's really about those conversations and our willingness to learn and to be curious, because you can't hold ethical guidelines accountable. You know, it really does come down to that trust. And so how do you have that, that confidence with other people as much as you want to love your coworkers and hold them to those standards. If you have this ambiguity, it's difficult, and so I think knowing that was really treasurable for me.

Trustee Vassar provided the following comment.

That was my favorite part of your presentation. The ethical guidelines without relationship is of no consequence. I just appreciated that so much. And your Brené Brown quote, keep up the good work. Let me know. Send me some links so I can read more.

Morgan van den Berg provided the following response.

Hopefully I will have another published paper soon. So, I would be happy to share.

Laura Lee McIntyre provided the following comment.

Thank you, Morgan, how has your relationship with AI evolved throughout this research journey?

Morgan van den Berg provided the following response.

Oh, that's a great question. I was, I think, similar to everyone at the very beginning, I was very worried, and I had a lot of and that's, I think, a thing that you have to be difficult and conscientious of when you're writing research papers, is you don't want to put your own bias into it, especially if you have any negative reservations surrounding it. And so, I had, I have to keep that in mind. And for me, I find it is wonderful for speech to text translations, and that is what we have only used it for, and I think for me that has helped. Otherwise, I try to separate my opinion from it with others and focusing primarily on it as solely a concept of a tool, with speech to text, or refining grammar. Understanding that my flows are logical, kind of, someone had brought up a really great point of, recognize whether using it at the beginning of a brainstorming or at the end of a reflection to be a critical analysis, and I thought that was a really profound way of framing the tool.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Well, Morgan, thank you. This is very inspiring, and you've got a great future ahead, and I'm going to ask to I'm going to invite you to lunch, or you and I can sit down, you can teach me what to avoid in the AI world and what I might need to learn more about, because you certainly have inspired me. So, look for that invitation to join me for lunch if you're willing. But thanks so much for being here with us today.

Trustee Vassar provided the following comment.

I want to go to lunch too. I want to go to lunch too.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

I think Trustee Vassar had a question, did you? Just waving goodbye?

Trustee Vassar provided the following comment.

No, no, no. I was saying, take me to lunch with you all. I want to learn.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Okay, join us for lunch, okay, great. Thank you.

5. Committee on Budget and Finance

Trustee Pierce presented the Trustee Budget and Finance Committee Report and the following recommendations and resolutions noting that items 2 and 4 have been approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

A. 2026-27 Housing and Dining Rates

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize Administration to implement the academic year 2026-27 housing and dining rates, as set forth in the resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby adopts the basic residence hall double housing and silver unlimited meal plan dining rate of \$13,574, reflecting a 5 percent increase for the 2026-27 academic year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby adopts a 5 percent rate increase for 1855 Place and the University Village apartments.

Trustee Pierce provided the following remarks.

Trustee Pierce **moved to approve** the recommendation, with support from Trustee Brianna Scott.

Trustee Pierce provided the following remarks.

And then we have Patty Martinez here available for discussion. Where are you? Patty? She's waving at us. Let me just, let me just, if I can explain that the residential and housing services this, they get no support from the state of Michigan or tuition, they are all self-supporting. So this revenue supports debt service, supports ongoing maintenance, and all of us know that many of the residence halls need ongoing maintenance and need upgrading and we're really trying to build the reserve because we're putting together, not we me, but the university is putting together a plan for all of the residential halls to determine and prioritize what can be done over the next several years. So, we really are trying hard to build the reserve to get ready for that as well.

President Guskiewicz provided the following remarks.

Thank you. Any discussion?

Trustee Balow made the following remarks

Little bit. I'm going to say a couple things, and I would ask Patty, wherever you are, if you could come to the microphone to explain something I'm going to touch on. So, I appreciate Trustee Pierce's comments. We talked about this yesterday at length. I mean, you would have loved to have been part of the discussion about the residence halls. And just know that, you know, when we're out talking to people and students and families, this always bubbles up to the top of the list, right? You get comments like, hey, I lived in Wonders in 1975, and it still looks the same, or pick your dorm, right? So, as part of being competitive in the future, we got to succeed on all levels. And pride of place in this awesome campus that we have is something that we need to keep, and we can never sleep on. So, like was just said, like we're trying to find ways to find the sources of funding to do what we need, need to be done. If you look at what just happened at Campbell Hall, that was a \$37 million renovation, which most people have seen it really love. And I think three and a half or \$4 million, I'm directionally correct, it's in that range came from donors. So, we have this capital campaign that's off to a great start thanks to, you know, President Guskiewicz's and Advancement's efforts and to the donors out there, it would be great if you know, some of you would adopt one of these dorms, maybe the name goes somewhere.

There's always deals that can be struck to inject capital into making the living arrangements better for our students. And along with that, goes the water, of course, that's another thing that's brought up that needs to be improved on. So, keep bringing the ideas and suggestions to us. Just know that as far as you know, this trustee is concerned, but I think with all of us, this is a really, really big issue, and we put a lot of thought yesterday into coming up with a number that gets us a little more to our reserves now, but points at the future, and that's what I'm going to ask Patty to talk about. There is an important study going on right now that maybe it's the first of its kind, maybe it hasn't been done in 20 years, but that study is going to be instructive as to the long range plan, as to how we upgrade the living arrangements on campus, and with that, I would just ask you to give a couple comments, Patty.

Patty Martinez provided the following remarks.

Sure. Thank you very much. Trustee Balow. So, we as residential and hospitality services are extremely excited to embark upon a portfolio wide facilities master plan, which will include our residence halls, our dining and our auxiliary sports groups as well. And so, as we look at this specifically within our Housing and Dining operations, as would be reflected in today's rate adjustments, we're looking to really ensure that we're able to have Spartans, our student Spartans, as well as our guests that visit us during the summer to have accommodations and a Spartan home here at MSU. We'd like to bring our facilities up into an infrastructure that will be supportive of multi-use space, whether that is community gathering spaces, whether that is study spaces, whether that is spaces to come in community and eat together, learn from one another, be able to learn in an inclusive and a diverse environment. And so, we're really trying to look at what's next for our Spartans. So not just in the immediacy, but what will the Spartans of 10 years from now be looking for in their Spartan home experience and their residential dining and recreation experience? And so, as we embark upon this, it will be a very inclusive study. So, anyone that's interested and involved in being a part of sharing their interest, their feedback, their expertise about their experience with our residential and hospitality services, we would invite you to contact me and be able to be a part of that, a part of those feedback sessions and focus groups. So, thank you so very much, trustees, our residential and hospitality team really appreciates the support of the board, as well as your forward thinking to how we can best serve our Spartans.

Kevin Guskiewicz made the following comments.

Any further discussions?

THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

B. Budget Revision—Combined Heat & Power Unit and West Regional Chilled Water Plant

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to separate the previously approved project entitled Combined Heat & Power Unit and West Regional Chilled Water Plant into two separate projects and to approve revised budgets for both projects. The projects will be entitled TB Simon Power Plant—Addition 6—Combined Heat & Power Unit with a budget of \$185,000,000 and West Regional Chilled Water Plant, with a budget of \$145,000,000.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to separate the Combined Heat & Power Unit and West Regional Chilled Water Plant project into two separate projects entitled TB Simon Power Plant—Addition 6—Combined Heat & Power Unit, with a budget of 185,000,000, and West Regional Chilled Water Plant, with a budget of \$145,000,000.

Trustee Pierce **moved to approve** the recommendation, with support from Trustee Bahar-Cook.

Trustee Pierce provided the following remarks.

Okay, and let me, and Ken McFarlane is available for discussion. Let me just make a couple of comments on this, because I was the chair of the Budget and Finance Committee when we actually authorized the planning and the proceeding. Now I understand most of the time when we do these projects, we first authorize the planning, comes back to us with the full, fully baked budget, and then we authorize the go forward to proceed. What happened with this one is that we actually authorized both at the same meeting, not having all the data, and so the Inflation Reduction Act and the ITC deadlines pushed us to do this in order to get those benefits, \$60 some million. So, we approved it without really understanding the breadth of the project, and I put that on me too, as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. And so, what happened to the original budget of \$203 million is turning out to be a \$330 million project. That's the biggest miss in my three and a half years on this board that we've had on a project. And so, I want all of you to know that this, we also have had a lot of discussion about this. It's a really tough lesson learned, but we need to get this done. It's going to help our university. It's just that we shouldn't have done both so fast and so with that, I'll turn it back to you, President.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Any discussion?

Trustee Scott provided the following remarks.

I just wanted to thank Trustee Pierce for taking ownership as the Chair of Budget and Finance, but we all were in those discussions, and so my apologies too for that oversight. I think we each have responsibility for our votes, and as Trustee Pierce has indicated, we have learned from this, and hopefully we'll never make that same mistake again. So, thank you. I just wanted to thank you for your leadership on it, Sandy.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Any other discussion?

Trustee Balow provided the following comments.

Is it worth mentioning the tax credit component, so they understand the offset? And if you did, I'm sorry.

Trustee Pierce provided the following response.

That that's going to come in when this is all done, and it's a little over \$60 million.

Trustee Balow Made the following comments

To be, to be a credit against the 330 million? Yeah, right.

Kevin Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

And I think I'll just add it was just a matter of time when we were going to need to conduct this work and get this work moving. And so, as we have seen construction projects and escalating prices over the past five, six years, it was this will be done in a timely manner, despite the this offset that we're the Trustee Pierce has described. So, thank you.

Trustee Pierce **moved to approve** the recommendation, with support from Trustee Bahar-Cook.

THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

6. Committee on Academic Affairs

Vice Chairperson Knake Jefferson presented the Trustee Academic Affairs Committee Report and the following recommendation, noting that items 1 and 2 were approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

A. Unification of the College of Human Medicine and College of Osteopathic Medicine

The Trustee Committee on Academic Affairs recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the unification of the College of Human Medicine and College of Osteopathic Medicine to become one, unified College to be named MSU Medicine.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustee Committee on Academic Affairs recommends the Board of Trustees hereby approve the Unification of the College of Human Medicine and College of Osteopathic Medicine to become one, unified College to be named Michigan State University Medicine.

Provost McIntyre provided the following remarks.

Thank you so much. We had a great discussion yesterday, and many, many campus discussions over the last year and a half, prior of my arrival, and the One Team, One Health Council Report was available for our review and engagement. One of the things that this unification allows us to do is bring together two very strong colleges with strong disciplinary identities into a unified College, while retaining their identities with degree granting MD and DO programs. And so with this unified and federated structure, it allows us to retain the unique elements of both degree granting programs while optimizing the shared resources and creating a shared set of student experiences that can be shared across both colleges. It will facilitate a singular front door for our clinical partners. It will facilitate greater opportunities for curricular overlap. It will facilitate opportunities for faculty research and clinical and instructional collaboration in a way that isn't present at current configuration. We're excited about this, is one of the three initiatives within the One Team, One Health set of recommendations. It does require Board approval because we are creating a new medical college, and that board approval is important for us then to work collaboratively and in close relationship with academic governance, with our unions that support our faculty and support staff, with our HR partners, with our alumni and faculty and leadership. This is the first important step that will then allow us to move forward with some of the implementation. It's the implementation will take quite a long time. We imagine that it will be two years before we can bring both colleges together in this way, but your support allows us to move

forward with the coordinating of next steps and involving all of those important constituents.

Trustee Bahar-Cook made the following comments.

I'd like to thank the Provost for that, and just to signal that the I and other members of the board have want to make sure that the two separate colleges that are going to be unified in the future understand that we respect the individuality of both of those colleges. And there are certain metrics we've been we've asked the administration to start monitoring now, so over time, we can sort of track what is working and what isn't and what might need tweaks in the future. And I just wanted to let folks know that if there's a metric you think the board should be paying attention to, please let us know.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Any other discussion?

Trustee Knake Jefferson **moved to approve** the recommendation, with support from Trustee Scott.

THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

I want to thank the board for their support in this. I talk often about the things that are uniquely MSU, that I think we will lead nationally and globally, and I think this is one of those. We have an incredible opportunity here. So, thanks for your support, as well as all those who've been part of this initiative, thank you.

Trustee Knake Jefferson provided the following report and remarks.

And now the Distinguished Student Awards Office, the DSAO, housed within the Honors College, helps undergraduates, graduate students and recent alumni pursue major national and international awards by providing information and direct support throughout the competitive application process. The DSAO maintains a database of award opportunities and resources and provides personal and professional development, programming, career advice and mentoring that benefits applicants beyond the award process. I have the pleasure this morning of introducing the Dean of the Honors College, Dr. Glenn Chambers, to share the 2025-26 DSAO awardees and finalists.

Dr. Glenn Chambers made the following remarks.

Thank you, Trustee Knake Jefferson, members of the board. It is my privilege to represent the Honors College and specifically the Distinguished Student Awards Office this morning, a unit housed within our college that serves the entire university, regardless of honors membership. I also want to thank you, President Guskiewicz, for being a great partner to the office, most recently, by signing a large amount of endorsement letters for the many students pursuing national and international awards. This academic year, the awards office helped MSU's first, Obama-Chesky Voyager Scholarship recipient, earn up to \$50,000 in financial aid and a 10-year travel stipend. It also supported two students in becoming MSU's 61st and 62nd Goldwater Scholars for their commitment to STEM research. The Distinguished Student Awards office is currently waiting on the results of seven more scholarship competitions, and so you may have to invite me back at some point, but I'd like to applaud the students we have here. Lauren Jin, please stand. Lauren is an Honors College student, advanced physics major, and one of our Goldwater scholars. Her research is advancing nuclear physics through machine learning. I also have Truman Scholarship, finalist, Lily Dixon in attendance. Please stand, Lily. Lily is an honors college student and arts and humanities major in the Residential College of Arts and Humanities, a member of the Social Science Scholars Program and an alumna of our professorial assistantship program in the Honors College, which provides students a paid research position and faculty mentor. Congratulations, Lauren and Lily. I'd also like to recognize the following students who could not join us today. Kaylin Casper, Rhodes Scholarship finalist, Aswath Karai, Goldwater Scholarship awardee, Gregory Marchal, Knight-Hennessy Scholarship finalist, Eleanor Pugh, Truman Scholarship finalist, who is actually couldn't be here because she's in Kazakhstan on another fellowship doing language learning. Ashlin Stover is the Obama-Chesky Voyager Scholarship awardee. When it comes to Spartans, excellence knows no bounds, and that excellence extends to the MSU debate team as well, also housed within the Honors College. The team has a quiet dominance that includes a 30-year qualifying streak for the national debate tournament. In attendance today, please stand Joanna is fourth year honors college student and MSU debater Joanna Gusic. Joanna is the first Spartan in history to earn the Julia Burke award. Now, I will say when Carly Watson, the director of the debate team and Will Repko, one of the coaches, were first describing it to me, and I guess to help me, you know, in layman's terms, understand what this award is. It is, as they would say, the equivalent of the Heisman trophy of college debate. So, it's a big deal. She finished in the Elite Eight at the national debate tournament with her teammate Stephen Lewis, beating teams from the University of Michigan, Northwestern, Harvard, Dartmouth, and the list goes on. As an individual, Joanna was also named eight speaker overall out of 150 national caliber debaters. So please join me again in congratulating Joanna and all

of the students and their amazing college careers. And I just want to say to everyone else again, thank you all for supporting honors college students, programs and the legacies of excellence. We can't do any of this without collaborating with the various units on campus and so faculty, staff, mentors, other students. We just really appreciate everything that everyone has done to help support our unit. So, thank you.

Trustee Knake Jefferson provided the following remarks

Thank you so much, Dr Chambers, for all of that good news and congratulations to all of the students. Our committee, also, when we met, received a presentation on the comprehensive MSU strategic enrollment plan, and this concludes my report.

7. Committee on Audit, Risk and Compliance

Chairperson Scott provided the following report noting that items 1 and 3 were approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Scott provided the following report.

The committee received an update on the fiscal year 2025-26 Scope of the Audit Presentation and Pre-Audit Communications and a presentation on "Preventing Passing the Harasser" which was a very engaging conversation, a very important one. That concludes my report.

8. Committee on Student Life and Culture

Trustee Denno presented the Student Life and Culture Committee Report.

Thank you, and thanks for saving the best committee for last. Student Life and Culture Committee received two presentations focused on student engagement, leadership development and community impact. In addition, the committee had the opportunity to engage with a small group of students, two undergraduate students and one graduate student, who shared their experiences and perspectives on student life at MSU. That was a great opportunity for trustees to actually hear from our students. And I know the trustees who were on that call, really appreciated that opportunity. In an effort to make the Board of Trustees more transparent, this meeting also marked the committee's first live stream, which included the presentations from MSU Vote and Fraternity and Sorority Life. MSU Vote is an initiative that supports student civic engagement and non-partisan democratic participation. The presentation highlighted efforts to increase student voter education, access, and turnout through coordinated campus partnerships. The committee also received an overview of fraternity and sorority life. Fraternity and Sorority Life at MSU supports approximately 5,000 students across 58 chapters, representing about 12 percent of the undergraduate population, and today, we are

joined by Tyler Manning, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Tyler brings more than a decade of experience supporting fraternities and sororities and advancing student leadership with a focus on building inclusive, values driven communities and strengthening organizational culture. Also joining us is Cha'Brea Weaver, a senior majoring in African American studies and anthropology and a member of the executive board for the National Pan-Hellenic Council. I'd like to welcome both Tyler and Cha'Brea to the MSU board and I know they're excited to hear from you.

Tyler Manning, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, provided the following comments.

Thank you, Trustee, Denno, and thank you to the board for the opportunity to be here today. As you just heard, Fraternity and Sorority Life engages a significant portion of our undergraduate population. Today, I'm hoping to add a bit of context to what that means for our students in the university. For us, our work is centered on how this experience helps students belong, engage and thrive academically, developmentally and personally. We continue to see strong academic performance over time. We have significant student leadership engagement, like you will hear from Cha'Brea, who has served on her chapter's leadership team and on our national Pan-Hellenic Council. Our students are also making meaningful contributions to the broader campus community and the city of East Lansing. As importantly, this is a complex community to serve, which requires a coordinated and intentional approach, which is why partnership across campus and within the city is critical. We also look at consistent education and shared accountability being central to how we do this work. When fraternity and sorority is done right, it can be a transformative experience for an undergraduate student. For many students, their fraternity or sorority is where they develop a strong sense of belonging. They take ownership and accountability for their decisions and leadership takes shape, helping them build the skills and the confidence that prepare them for life beyond Michigan State. To bring this into focus, I'm going to turn it over to Cha'Brea Weaver to share her experience as a student leader within fraternity and sorority life.

Cha'Brea Weaver provided the following remarks.

Thank you. Tyler provided me some questions, so I'm going to give my perspective on what it's like to be in Fraternity and Sorority Life. So, hello everyone. My name is Cha'Brea Weaver. I'm an anthropology major graduating senior, finally, I serve as the National Pan-Hellenic Council's vice president, and I'm also a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated the best sorority ever, and I just passed four years of membership in March, so yay. A little bit more about myself, I'm the youngest of five brothers and one older sister, and I came to MSU from Detroit, from a graduating class of seniors of about 150 people, so not many. And I came to MSU during Covid, so it was a little bit lonely here, and I was kind of trying to find my place. I was a bit unprepared for the upcoming obstacles of college, and so I attended Spartan Remix, and I found the most approachable group of girls

ever, literally ever, and I found the most supportive community ever in fraternity and sorority life. These people taught me the ropes to college life, as you know, since I'm also a first-generation student and I had no one to guide me, and they helped me grow into adulthood and womanhood especially and taught me how to be a successful college student. They helped me build a support system with my peers. They taught me organizational and leadership skills and did it all through this strong sense of value, purpose, and familial bonds that I craved while being away from my siblings back home. That environment made my learning more comfortable and my academic success more easy. Of course, this journey to where I am now was tough, and as a former shy girl, I was a bit anxious about the change of pace and socialization that fraternity and sorority Life promises you. But now I'm proud of the destination I've gotten from that journey as a graduating senior of Michigan State, and I couldn't have asked for a better support system along the way. I get to be a part of something greater, and I get to be a part of a community full of differences but also beautiful similarities centered around serving the people around us and providing a home as I enter the workforce, the skills I've learned from these experiences and the work ethic FSL has definitely given me, overall make me extremely confident that no matter the path that I choose, I will absolutely be prepared, and so I'm nothing but grateful to fraternity sorority life. Thank you.

Tyler Manning made the following comments.

Thank you so much for your time.

Trustee Denno made the following comments.

Oh, thank you. Does anyone have any questions or comments or thoughts?

Brianna Scott made the following remarks.

I do. I happen to be in a sorority when I was also here at Michigan State, and I just love everything that you said. Those relationships that you gained, also just the confidence that you get in the leadership that you have within the organization, those are going to go very far for you. And that network of poodles you got your poodles, right? Okay? Of poodles all across the country that are going to just wrap you in their arms and help you as you go into your professional career are going to be outstanding. And so, I love hearing these stories. Thank you for sharing today, I wish you the best of luck.

Dennis Denno made the following remarks

So, thank you, Tyler and Cha'Brea, for all you do for MSU and for MSU students. And that concludes my report.

9. Liaisons Report, Chairperson's Report, Trustees' Comments

Trustee Scott provided the following remarks.

We will now hear from our student liaisons, but before we do that, you should have before you, and I'd love to see what we got you, because I don't, I don't know, I didn't, I wasn't asked to approve it, but we just want to thank our student liaisons. When I think about the student that just came before us, and what our student liaisons do, just to have these leadership positions, attend our meetings, our luncheons and all of the assistance that they provided us and great feedback from their various organizations, we are greatly appreciative of all of you, and thank you for your service to Michigan State University and your collaboration with us as a board and administration during this year. And we wish you the best. Thank you, and we will start off with Lauren, you're first today.

Student Liaison Reports

Lauren Pelon, RHA Representative, provided the following report.

Hello, everyone. My name is Lauren Pelon, and I am the 56th session president for the Residence Halls Association, our on-campus student government. As my session is coming to an end, I want to take time to thank the board for the endless times of collaboration. You all help make being a student liaison and improving MSU a great experience through the cross collaboration of all of us, there have been many things accomplished throughout this academic year. Along with that, working with my other three student liaisons has also been, has also made this experience amazing. I'm so happy not only to have done great advocacy work with you all, but to consider you amazing friends. Within the 56th session, the Residence Halls Association has been nothing short of exceptional. We have continually raised the bars with high numbers of engagement across campus, more advocacy than ever before, and funding for many initiatives. Within our leadership team, RHA has been a part of over 40 events, ranging from tablings to collaborative events, and sponsored over 40 registered student organizations. In terms of our constituents and general assembly, our general assembly was able to make executive funding decisions and support over 25 RSOs with \$80,000. Furthermore, our general assembly has been able to have been a pivotal part of advocacy through devising bills, events, and bettering our internal processes. Our constituent groups have continued to be active through consistent attendance at our general assembly and committee meetings with an average of missing one meeting over the semester, higher spending from groups averaging to spend over \$800 and many community events this more to support their respective residents. In my three years on the board, I'm so proud that my board and constituents were able to do all of this over the year, and hope to continue it on. As I am leaving, I want to acknowledge my successor, Kassidy Do. Kassidy, if you stand up, please, thank you. Kassidy Doe is a senior in public relations and has been heavily involved with RHA for her whole college experience, from being a constituent to on our E-Board, she has the tools to be a great president, and I'm excited to see what the 57th session achieves. As we are still finalizing our 57th session team through hiring

and elections, I am excited to see the array of individuals that will come together to enhance our on-campus students experience. And finally, in terms of our recent advocacy efforts, our general assembly strongly believes in sustainability, while balancing these goals with the Greater Lansing community. Our on-campus students can understand and experience food insecurity and would like to devise an opportunity to eliminate this within the greater community. Considering this, they wrote Bill SS.09, which emphasizes reducing pre-consumer food waste and instead expands our food donation efforts to the overarching community. Michigan State University currently generates approximately 2,576,778 pounds of food annually from our dining halls, academic buildings and campus facilities. As some of this food waste cannot be salvageable, much of it could be used to feed our community, since it is pre-consumer edible food and is now just being put to waste. While working on this bill, there have been many conversations with RHS teams and other stakeholders and with a nonprofit to possibly facilitate this food rescue to ensure that this would even be feasible. Furthermore, RHA wants to promote the health and well-being of our overall community with the advocacy of this bill. Furthermore, our general assembly also acknowledges the value that CORES and CAMS groups bring to Michigan State University, through their rich history of advocacy and fostering communities, CORES and CAMS are vital parts of MSU. This is why our constituents approached us with the idea of bringing Bill SS.07 forward. With Bill SS.07, RHA is advocating for CORES and CAMS groups to be placed under the OMEA department. The staff and space at OMEA are well equipped to be essential resources for CORES and CAMS groups. We will look forward to working with admin to ensure that CORES and CAMS groups have accessible funding for accessible resources for them, including, but not limited, advising spaces and funding. And that is my report. Thank you.

Sarah Fireberg, University Committee on Student Affairs Representative, provided the following report.

Well, hello everyone. So, since the last meeting, I've supported student focused work through RHA and ASMSU. I've also gotten my voice back so the minutes might be a little bit easier for you, Stefan. First, I supported a bill SS.09 passed by RHA about reducing food waste, which Lauren just talked about. So, I'll give a brief little rundown. So, food waste and increasing food donations at Michigan State University. So, I support the goals of this bill, as MSU creates a large amount of food waste each year, including food that is still safe to eat, but is never served. This bill encourages dining services on campus to donate extra food and work with groups like Food Rescue. This is a simple way to reduce waste and help people in the East Lansing community and the Greater Lansing community. Second, I supported and helped write an ASMSU bill, 62-117, advocating for restrooms near commuter lot 89 This connects to a concern I brought up at the previous board meeting about the lack of restrooms for commuter students. Also, you know, athletics that use that lot as well, so it could be a large range of people. So, this connects a concern, yeah, that I brought up. So a portable restroom has been added to the lot and is a great first step. And I've heard a lot of great feedback from

students. I got an email immediately after they noticed that it was there. So that shows that it's really important, and it's helping students, but I really recommend that the Board should consider supporting a permanent restroom in the future. Overall, I will keep on improving student experience, or working on improving student experience, access, and basic needs on campus. As this is my last board meeting, I also wanted to thank the student body for trusting me to represent them and bringing forth important topics to share with the board. I'd also like to thank the board for always listening and working with us students to help create a positive change on our campus, and I really can tell that you guys are passionate, and you care and really truly listen to us. I'd also like to thank my fellow liaisons, whom I've been able to create a pretty wonderful relationship with. I'm so happy to have been able to work with them. It's been wonderful. Overall, yeah, thank you everyone. And that concludes my report.

Priyanka Kothari Council of Graduate Students President, provided the following remarks.

Good morning, Chair Scott, members of the board, President Guskiewicz, members of the Spartan community. This is so beautiful. My name is Priyanka Kothari, and I serve as the president of Council of Graduate Students. I want to start my remarks today with a shout out to Graduate and Professional Students Appreciation Week, that we are celebrating at MSU currently, from April 6 to April 10, today. Across campus, graduate students are being recognized through a series of events. We began bright and early Monday morning with our president serving pancakes with Provost pretzels with Provost, career cafe by grad school, and obviously, COGS will not be behind. So, COGS also did some of the events of its own, even today. One of the most notable ones, the most fun ones, I think, was our pizza arena that we hosted in partnership with a great office. So please indulge me for a minute. Grad school, grad students from across campus nominated their favorite pizzas in East Lansing, and then we ordered the top three pizzas from the top three pizza places that were nominated. So, it was really popular. We ordered like 21 large pizzas, and we were out of them in less than 20 minutes. So, then we ordered like another 15 boxes, and the results are in, the margarita pizza by Slice is voted as the best pizza in East Lansing. So be it ethics of generative AI that we heard from Morgan this morning, or the best pizza in town, grad students can truly figure it all out. As joyful as these events are, they are not just celebrations, but they are also reminders of the vital role that graduate and professional students play in the life of this university. We are instructors, researchers, mentors and innovators who contribute every day to Michigan State's teaching, research, and outreach mission. So, on behalf of all of our graduate and professional students, thank you for appreciating and honoring us. We will continue doing the good work. I also want to take a moment to share about another important vote that we conducted at COGS recently, our annual executive board elections for the upcoming year. I'm honored to be reelected as the president for a second term alongside my Vice President. Thank you, Vice President of Internal Affairs, Nic Heilman, and our treasurer, Saviour Kitchel, who will continue in their

roles. I'm excited to welcome our incoming Vice President of External Affairs, Jasmine Winter, and our incoming Secretary, Kexin Cui, on the board. As we look toward the upcoming year, we are especially excited to continue and expand the programming that has supported graduate student success and community at MSU. From professional development initiatives to community events and advocacy efforts, these programs have strengthened connections across campus and created meaningful opportunities for engagement. At the same time, we remain focused on the broader priorities that shape the graduate student experience: financial sustainability, well-being and strong institutional partnership. We are looking ahead to continue the collaboration between graduate students and university leadership to address these challenges and build on their shared successes. In closing, Graduate Student Appreciation Week is a celebration, but it is also a reflection of something deeper, the essential role graduate students play in sustaining and advancing Michigan State University. Supporting graduate students is an investment in the university's future. I will also encourage everyone here to take a moment to appreciate any grad student that you know personally, write them an email, remind them of how well they're doing, and share your encouragement to their work. Small gestures go a long way. Thank you for all your time, to my amazing fellow student liaisons, and for all that you do for us grad students. That concludes my report.

Kathryn Harding, ASMSU Representative, provided the following report.

Good morning, trustees and Spartan community members. My name is Kathryn Harding, and I have the honor of serving as the ASMSU and student body president for the 62nd session. The ASMSU spring elections took place last week, and I'm beyond excited to report that for the first time in 20 years, a tax increase was passed. The student tax that allows ASMSU to serve the undergraduate student population will be raised from \$21 to \$25 per semester. This tax funds all of the services that we provide to students, allows us to fairly compensate our student employees, conduct programming on campus and allocate money to various departments that support students as well. The increase will give ASMSU the ability to do even more, and I'm incredibly grateful to the student body for recognizing the value that ASMSU brings to campus, and I want to thank my leadership team as well for their hard work. During spring elections, the student body also elected 18 representatives across eight colleges for our general assembly. Voted to shift our Chief DEI officer to the Vice President of DEI to ensure student voice in electing that individual and added seats to our general assembly to represent transaction, the Honors College Dean's Advisory Group and Catholic Spartans. While I'm happy to announce these election results, I would be remiss not to mention one that is quite troubling, a constitutional amendment that we were strong armed into proposing to change how we describe CORES and CAMS groups as voting members of our general assembly also passed. We previously described CORES and CAMS groups as racial, ethnic, and marginalized, but a compliance directive from Student Affairs and General Counsel forced a proposal to shift the descriptive language to community-based advocacy groups. I want to

be clear that this change has no effect on the voting powers of CORES and CAMS and will not have any functional effects. However, I want the board in the community to know that my leadership and I were strong armed with threats to the status of ASMSU's tax collecting status, into presenting this language to change to this language change to our general assembly, who reluctantly passed it through to a student body wide vote. I'm relieved that I did not have to have a conversation with the board about the future of ASMSU if it were to fail. But I do think that this behavior sets an extremely concerning precedent for the autonomy of student governance. And ASMSU is not the only group that was the victim to these compliance directives. At the beginning of the year, identity-based groups directly dealt with orders to change their constitutions as well. Students and student groups should never be backed into a corner by administration to be told how they can serve their constituents and how they say they serve their constituents. At the end of the day, every student you have told to change the way they serve their peers or how they describe this work is just that a student, a student trying their best to do something good for this campus, while balancing classes, jobs, postgrad plans, a social life, and probably many more stressors. Yet they have been burdened by these demoralizing directives, rather than fully celebrated and supported for the amazing work they do on campus to increase cultural awareness, spread joy and uplift our diverse communities. We deserve so much better than what we got from administration this year. Our racial, ethnic, marginalized students, who we claim to be so proud to have on this campus, deserve so much better. The 62nd session of the ASMSU General Assembly passed 123 bills throughout the year from allocating money to support well-being initiatives, advocating for increased accessibility and availability of culinary services, asserting our stance on events that are affecting students, particularly our recent opposition to the war the U.S. and Israel are waging with Iran, advocating for the creation of new minor programs, working with DPPS to integrate new safety technology into the Safe MSU app, advocating for a permanent substance free green space on campus, and supporting our immigrant and international students. We have demonstrated one of the most productive assemblies in ASMSU's history and a heightened responsiveness to a wide range of issues that students face on this campus, and I am very proud to have led that session. This Saturday, the National Asian Pacific American Museum Commission will be visiting campus at 9:30 a.m. at the Multicultural Center, thanks to the advocacy and outreach of the Asian Pacific American Student Organization, the Commission will be hosting a listening session as part of their efforts to build a national museum dedicated to Asian, Pacific, American History and Culture. This is going to be an incredible event that will uplift Midwestern APIDA voices and provide MSU students and community members the opportunity to contribute to a historic federal initiative. So, I encourage you all to attend if you are able. I want to give a big thank you to my fellow student liaisons, Priyanka, Sarah and Lauren, who I am privileged to have worked with this year. I think the nature of this role can be very daunting, and I'm very grateful for the collaborative efforts we shared to advocate for our constituencies together. I appreciate the board's willingness to hear and take our suggestions into account, especially with the added seat for a student on the Advisory Committee on

Responsible Investing. I'm hopeful that this committee will enact real change in our investments, rather than just acting as another administrative burden because of the responsiveness to our advocacy. So, thank you. I also want to acknowledge that the board listened to ASMSU's call for the stakeholder engagement forum to be more open to students and to not replace a public meeting with this event in the fall. I hope that you will continue and maybe even increase how responsive you are to the next group of student liaisons. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with you all this year, and I feel like we did make positive change. So, thank you. The next ASMSU and student body president will be elected on Tuesday, so this will be my final report. It has been a very surreal and unique experience to serve in this role, and it is an experience that I will forever value. Student leadership is never, ever easy. It was always, always worth it. I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity to serve Michigan State and my fellow Spartans, since the place and the people are very dear to my heart. For the final time, this concludes my report. Thank you.

Faculty Liaison Report

John Aerni-Flessner, faculty liaison, provided the following report.

Thank you, Chair, Scott, good morning, all. It's great to be here today as the academic year winds down. As ever, it is an honor to be the representative of the faculty of this wonderful institution. The 2025-26 academic year will go down as a continuation of a tumultuous and tempestuous time that started with federal funding cuts in early 2025 and continued through budget cuts on campus last summer. These cuts have been keenly felt across campus this year. Faculty look forward to a time of budget stabilization. We continue to prioritize our work that furthers the core academic mission of the institution, through teaching, mentoring and research. We are especially keeping our eye on all the programs where graduate admissions were paused this year with the expectation that these programs will resume their recruitment in the fall. Our status as a top tier, comprehensive research institution serving the needs of our local communities, the State of Michigan, and the world, demands that we have excellence across the breadth of our academic programs in all fields and disciplines. Additionally, this year has seen the recognition of the first Tenure System Faculty Union in the history of MSU. There have been discussions in organizing efforts stretching back more than 50 years on campus for unionization, and it is a testament to those who did the hard work of organizing that this finally happened. The arrival of the union has however complicated the work of academic governance. Faculty voice needs to be heard in decision making processes across campus. The careful, deliberative work of sorting out what is a bargaining issue for the union and what should stay in the hands of academic governance will continue to be an issue beyond this year. All we ask is that all sides are willing to communicate in an open and constructive manner to ensure that all categories of faculty are represented at the table and that faculty voice is not diluted. On that note, I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time this year to serve as part of academic governance. From the

members of the steering committee, including those sitting with me at the table here, who represent faculty voice, to this board and the administration, to the last member of the quietest committee on campus, everyone has taken their personal and professional time to contribute to the strengthening of MSU through faculty voice and we thank you. The faculty at MSU are truly amazing, pushing forward the limits of human knowledge across a broad spectrum of disciplines, ranging from the core liberal arts, the humanities, social sciences, arts, and sciences, to engineering, medicine, the law and more. The ways that faculty continue to bring this work to the public, the outreach mission of a land grant institution is also striking. Thus, I want to congratulate all of our peers who recently won awards at the all university awards ceremony held on April 7. These include winners of the Teacher Scholar Awards, the Beal Award, University Distinguished Professor designations, the Community Engagement Scholarship Awards and others. These awards represent the greatness of this institution and the ways that the professoriate serves our students and the public of Michigan and the wider world. Please look up their accomplishments and marvel at their amazing work. They represent us all well. Still, there are segments of the public that struggle to understand the innovations and values that higher education brings to our society. Yes, teaching the students who are here will forever remain core to this mission, but we need to sing our praises so that the public sees more of the important work we do to educate for democratic citizenship through our work on and off campus. The society of today and tomorrow is better off when universities are thriving. As part of this work, I am working with the faculty senate leadership from other Michigan public four year institutions to help bring the message about the transformative value of higher education to our elected state leaders in downtown Lansing, faculty representatives from at least 11 of our 15 public campuses are planning to attend, whether virtually or in person a meeting later this month here at MSU, where we will build bridges across our diverse higher education system, with the main goal of helping our elected leaders and the general public better understand why investing in higher education is one of the smartest things this state can do with our tax dollars. I would be remiss to address you without noting that plenty of faculty and many others on campus have concerns about the implementation of the One Team, One Health plans. It is still a cause of great consternation for many, and we are still pressing for more faculty and staff seats at the table as key decisions are being made. But know this, the faculty and staff of this institution are always ready to do the work when it is clear that the work is in service of the greater mission of the university. The faculty are the long-term stewards of this institution and are fiercely protective of that role. We have a key role to play in transformative change, but we can only do so when we have seats at the table, whether that is through a bargaining unit, through governance processes or some other mechanism. We need to be consulted early and often before decisions are made and need to be empowered to offer up our own visions for consideration. We venture forth in a collaborative spirit to build this institution for the long term. With the upcoming graduation season almost upon us, the faculty are eager to send yet another crop of Spartans out into the world to do good and do well. It is always a pleasure and a treat to see those who we have spent years

training move up to become our peers, and those who are taking seats at the table to drive the changes Michigan and this world need to see. So, congratulations to all our soon to be graduates, and may you remember to come back and see us after you set off into the world to make it your own. Thank you.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Pierce provided the following report.

Okay, thank you. First of all, let me just say to the student liaisons, who are almost all graduating and to the faculty liaisons, you are always prepared when you come to our work sessions. You are always respectful, and you always advocate for your constituencies. And so, we hear you, and we appreciate your transparency and your honesty, your candor, and Katherine, to your comments, I'm so sorry that you're required to change names, but I'm so proud that you haven't changed the work. Thank you for that. Okay, I've just got a couple of things. I'll go fast, the MSU Match Day, 427 MSU medical students from our Colleges of Human Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine celebrated a successful match day. 97 percent were matched, which is above the national average. Isn't that great? The majority of these future physicians are choosing to stay in our great state of Michigan, with 58 percent of the MD's and 72 percent of the DO students remaining in Michigan for their residency, 39 percent of our students matched into primary care programs. All of you know, if you, this is a national shortage of 86,000 doctors in primary care. So really proud of that. These results underscore our university's commitment to providing a robust health care pipeline and really supports the long-term health and economic well-being of all Michigan residents. Okay, number two, turf grass. I don't know how I go from medicine to turf grass, but I'm gonna. All right, I'm proud to highlight the global impact of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources as MSU's renowned turf grass program, this is exciting, takes center stage for the upcoming 23rd FIFA World Cup, which the United States, Canada and Mexico are all hosting. Dr. Trey Rogers is currently leading an elite team in partnership with MSU alumnus Dr. John Sorochoan, who is now a distinguished professor at the University of Tennessee Knoxville, we won't, we won't diss him for that, to oversee the playing surfaces for all 16 World Cup stadiums. That's a big deal. Dr. Rogers is a leader and a pioneer in turf grass research since his work with FIFA in 1994 installing portable natural grass in the Pontiac Silver Dome. Remember that? Doesn't exist anymore, for the FIFA World Cup 1994. This partnership represents a full circle Spartan success story as Dr. Sorochoan was an undergraduate and graduate student under Dr. Rogers during the 1994 World Cup. It's really a massive undertaking across all three countries that I mentioned, 16 cities spanning roughly 5,000 miles from Vancouver, Canada to Mexico City, Mexico and 104 matches. Providing world class surfaces for 104 games, MSU is once again proving that our agricultural research and Spartan turf talent set the gold standard for the international sports industry. Make sure that when you're watching it or going to it that you're mentioning that that turf is us. Okay. Finally, I'd like to congratulate MSU culinary services. This is really, really, really great, which has

been named the best overall allergen free campus dining program by MenuTrinfo at the 10th Annual National Allergy Awards. You know, one of our three children has very severe life-threatening allergies, and so and he went to MSU, having this award is very meaningful with the continuing outbreak of allergies. Menu, if you don't know because I didn't know it, MenuTrinfo is the industry standard for allergen free safety and practices, and this honor really does highlight our commitment to going above and beyond and protecting students and dietary restrictions. So, I wanted to make sure that I gave our gratitude to Associate Vice President Residential and Hospitality Services, Patty Martinez, RHS Culinary Services, AVP, Rebecca Selesky along with the Associate Director Gina Keilen and dietitians Holly Christy and Kelsey Patterson for your incredible dedication to this program. Thank you.

Trustee Vassar provided the following comments

Good morning. President Guskiewicz, fellow trustees, members of the MSU community. Since our last meeting, want to just say it out loud, I've written four Op Eds, one published in Bridge Michigan, two in Michigan Chronicle, and one coauthored with Dr. Pamela Pugh, addressing the dismantling of equity programs and the need for institutional accountability. I wrote these pieces because I believe transparency and public accountability are essential to our fiduciary responsibilities and duties as trustees. I want to be clear about my continued commitment. I'm here for marginalized students, staff, faculty and administrators, and when they speak, I listen, when they need advocacy, I show up. That will not change. I want to thank several people for their direct engagement and leadership during the challenging time. Thank you to Dr. James Weathers, MSUBA and BSA leadership. Dr. Lee June, and others who participated in last week's meeting with President Guskiewicz and Board Chair Scott. I was not able to attend, but I am grateful for your continued advocacy and for creating space for student voices to be heard. I want to also specifically thank VP Laura Rugless for speaking with me directly about the Op Ed and about the student who reported harassment nine times. We didn't have a conversation about the student. We had a conversation about systems and about leadership and about support to students. All the things that she has consistently worked toward in her leadership. She's a reflective leader, and I appreciate her. I appreciate her willingness to engage in difficult conversations rather than avoid them. I wish more leaders would sit in discomfort in order to be better, and I just respect and admire her. That kind of leadership strengthens institutions. I attended the Association of Governing Boards conference earlier this month, along with three other of my board colleagues. The experience was both affirming and troubling. I mentioned it earlier, there were lots of sessions on AI, but there were more sessions on inclusive excellence. They were filled beyond capacity with trustees from across the country seeking actionable guidance on how to support underrepresented students in advance equity. I was heartened by that. At the same time, Michigan State was used as a cautionary tale, a case study of what happens when boards and administrators fail to engage trustees who ask accountability questions. That was

difficult. It was difficult to witness, it was difficult to be a part of, and it underscores the work we still have to do to rebuild trust and demonstrate that this board values oversight as much as it values cohesion, and I look forward to that important work of repair with my colleagues and a vision toward a more fun, actually and collegial future. I want to recognize several moments of excellence across our campus. Thank you, Dr. Chambers, for recognizing Joanna Gusis, fourth year honors college student studying statistics and political theory. You and the debate team, I mean this, this is just awesome and winning the Heisman trophy of college debate. This award honors exceptional competitive ability combined with integrity and generosity and mentoring others. And Joanna represents the caliber of students we are privileged to serve. I also want to recognize Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week, which honored our more than 10,000 graduate students who serve as educators, researchers and mentors. Thank you to the graduate school and Council of Graduate Students for organizing this important recognition. Also, the Chambers are impressive. Dr. Chambers here at the meeting, and Dr. Tara is part of award-winning COE, the College of Education, under the direction of, and leadership of Dean Jerlando Jackson, has won again. Thank you so much for maintaining excellence and being recognized for the important work done developing the folks entrusted with the responsibility of education. Our future is in the hands of the folks that you are preparing, and your awards let us know that we're in good hands. So, I appreciate that work. I'm proud to highlight two programs that demonstrate Michigan State's capacity to lead on issues of equity and impact. First, the RX Kids program, led by Mona Hanna and the College of Human Medicine has now expanded to 42 Michigan communities, reaching over 8,000 families and prescribing more than \$30 million in cash support to mothers and babies. I think that's phenomenal. This evidence-based program has generated bipartisan support and is setting a national standard for maternal and infant health. Thank you, Dr. Hanna, for the Spartan led initiative that is changing lives. Second, I want to honor the 25 year legacy of Luis Alonzo Garcia, who retired in January after building one of the nation's most comprehensive support systems for migrant and seasonal farm worker students through the College Assistant Migrant Program Camp. Since the year 2,000, Luis has mentored more than 2,000 scholars and secured over \$30 million in grants to ensure students from farm worker families have access to higher education. His work has been transformative, not just for individual students, but for entire communities who have been historically excluded from spaces like Michigan State. I also want to recognize the Annual Farm Worker Appreciation Commemorative Celebration, which serves as a vital opportunity for our community to honor the essential contributions of the workers who feed our nation. Thank you to Vice President Jabbar Bennett, the FWACC planning committee and Dr. Hernandez for organizing this event. Luis's legacy reminds us that equity work requires sustained commitment, resources, and an unshakable belief that students from marginalized communities deserve not just access, but belonging and support. That's the work that we should all be invested in. Finally, I want to acknowledge something we don't talk about enough in these meetings that I always bring it up, but I feel like maybe I'm the only person who's concerned about rest and joy. This has been a

hard year for so many people. You heard about it just now, students navigating funding cuts, inadequate institutional response. I agree with you, Katherine, you all deserve better, staff and faculty managing increased workloads and canceled grants, administrators navigating public scrutiny and trustees managing conflict and disagreement. We all need space to rest. We all need opportunities for joy. Burnout does not produce excellence. Exhaustion does not build community and relentless pressure without care does not honor the humanity of the people who make this university run, I hope we can create more space for students, for staff, for faculty, for administrators and yes, for trustees, to experience joy in this work, to rest when we need it, to show up for each other with care and not just critique. I thank you. Go Green.

Trustee Balow provided the following report.

Thank you, Dr. Fletcher. Couple different things here. We'll start out with some fun good news. I'm pleased to report that some MSU student entrepreneurs landed deals on ABC's Shark Tank. This super cool story and testament to the quality education our students receive, combined with the thirst for innovation that so many Spartans have. Two of our student entrepreneurs have secured a \$300,000 investment during their appearance on Shark Tank on ABC on March 4, Madhav Aggarwal and Tanvi Gadamsetti went before the sharks to pitch their company BRCĒ. It's a performance materials technology company that you built while studying here at MSU. They patented a product called shoelaces that never quit, which helps prevent sports related ankle injuries by reducing untied laces. Someone better tell that former Michigan quarterback who played without his shoes tied about that. The two credit their success to MSU entrepreneurial ecosystem, including the Burgess Institute, where students from across campus are equipped with the mindset community and real world experience that turns ideas into action and with new investment and national exposure, these two fine young individuals are looking ahead to the next phase of BRCĒ's growth, scaling the company, expanding its reach, and continuing to build the business they first imagined as students at MSU. Congrats to both of them. Young man named Sam Edwards, named to the Big Ten Wayne Duke Post Graduate Award recipient. Award recipient, six-year linebacker Sam Edwards, who has been selected as the male recipient of the Wayne Duke award from the Big Ten conference. This young man was voted team captain by his teammates in his six-year graduate season. And while excelling on the field as both standout special teams player and linebacker, he made an equally significant impact in the classroom. In 2025 he was appointed as a student athlete representative on the NCAA division one board of directors, becoming just the fourth football player to serve on the board. All 18 Big Ten Conference member institutions were asked to nominate one female and one male student for the 25-26 school year. The two honorees selected reach awarded a \$10,000 scholarship for their achievements in academics, athletics, extracurricular activities and leadership. So, one of two in the Big Ten is pretty select groups, and congratulations to Sam. I would like to give a special fond farewell to the seniors on campus, some of the best of which are exhibited here. I

was the student liaison last year and got to work very closely with these fine young ladies, and it was something I'll always take with me, so that when we may meet 10 years from now, we'll always look back on what happened here. And I'd also like to thank the families, the moms and dads, or whoever your family is, seniors who sent you here, who trusted MSU with educating you for four plus years, and it is you who are the lifeblood of our institution. You know the young people, you know we get older, the students always stay the same age. They bring fresh perspective, enthusiasm and their energy to everything that they do. So, congratulations to all the graduates. I would like to give an acknowledgement to something that President Guskiewicz had said earlier about the I think we're calling it the institutional assessment. This was a very long time in coming. As most would agree, it's taken far too long for whatever reason. This is something that we have to get right, you know, we have to take a hard look at who we are, at how safe our campus is, at how we treat victims of crimes. And speaking for myself, I'm going to be very, very focused on how this assessment is executed, you know? Because it's one thing to say you're going to do something, but it's another to execute it in the most and best way possible, and I think that we would all be committed for that on the board. I would also encourage anyone who's even thinking about running for the board to embrace that as something that they're passionate about. I would particularly like to recognize the group known as POSSE, who some of you know have been very vocal and centered advocates for this over the years, and I will give them the best compliment that I personally don't believe this ever would have gotten done without them, without their continuing desire to hold MSU accountable in all the right ways. And now just something that needs to be discussed. Little bit of friction, I guess, but the point here I'm going to make is that what we do as the policy makers for this university is something that we do freely of our own full will. We don't get paid for it. You know, we're elected, and we don't work here, like we are the oversight for this university, as I've said before, and I think all eight of us are committed to good governance, although we may disagree at times about what that looks like. But I'm going to be exceedingly polite when I talk about this, because what our country needs right now is people who are comfortable being uncomfortable, who can disagree without being disagreeable, and who can respect diversity of thought and viewpoints in ways that don't diminish the humanity of the other side. And so often we talk about transparency. What we were going to discuss today was going to be a little bit about Spartan Ventures and Spartan Media Ventures, which you've read about, which is a which is a huge watershed innovative change, like a forever change, to our athletic department that will change it forever. And we have a very good athletic director, J Batt, who we are lucky to have, who thinks outside the box and is going to take us forward and back in October when we approved Spartan Ventures, you can go back and look at my comments, I was one of the biggest proponents for it, for the ability it would give our team to exceed, to hire people, to fundraise, but we have to do it in the right way. Athletics in America at colleges has gotten to be a monster. It is professionalized in every way, shape or form, as we all know at the big sports, but we mustn't forget that athletics are part of a university, part of a much larger whole. They are not standalone professional teams. They are subject to the oversight of

the elected Board of Trustees in this case, and we have to focus on transparency. We had a resolution planned to discuss this morning, which was going to discuss the transparency component of that, you know, to make sure that we affirmed, as a board, that anything that was created inside of athletics would be subject to the ultimate oversight of the board, wouldn't require non-disclosure agreements for board members to view, would be subject to the Freedom of Information Act, and it was a simple resolution. I mean, it was my work product, I have it right here, and I'm not going to read it to you, but I'll provide it to anyone who wants one. Just email me. It's trusteebalow@msu.edu. I want to thank Trustee Denno and Trustee Vassar for supporting my request to put this on the agenda. And as you know, or may not know, when you wonder how things get on the agenda, there are several ways, but one way is if three trustees desire an item to be on the agenda, to put it in the public discourse, because we spent all day yesterday talking about things, and you never know it. But sometimes you need to know how we're thinking on certain things. And so this morning, we had three that wanted to put this on the agenda, but then five can take it off, so it's not on there. And I think we need to take a look at our policies, because that's kind of weird. Because if three can put it on and five can take it off, what if three want to put it back on? You remember the old game of putting the hands on the baseball bat, like, who's last it's kind of weird, but like I said, I'm not going to read this to you, but all this sought to do, simply, would be that the Board of Trustees affirms that any subsidiary entity that is created by Spartan ventures or the MSU administration generally is subject to the Freedom of Information Act and will not require trustees to execute non-disclosure agreements to access documents necessary for the trustees general oversight role. I don't think we as elected officials can sign away our responsibility to conduct oversight over every part of this campus, because if we don't, no one else will. The governor doesn't have that power, and the legislature doesn't have that power. So, because no vote was ever taken on creating the media company, known as Spartan Media Ventures, I thought it best that we at least pass that resolution today to reassure everyone that the board has complete oversight. I'll try again in June to put it on the agenda, but if it's not there, now you know why. I want to say that my concerns are not with our Athletic Director. They are not with our very generous donors, Greg and Dawn Williams, who are who have made outstanding donations in parallel to the investment in this vehicle. My concerns are in the legal realm to slow down a bit and make sure we're crossing all the T's and dotting all the I's and make sure we are involving the board in every step of the way, procedurally, legally, and making sure that we're doing it right, and not disenfranchising board members who want to vote on things. Again, we were elected to be the oversight, and we cannot give away that responsibility. And I would mention, like, if you look at what we just did, it was part of the consent agenda. We have the conflict of interest and approval of contract terms, so all of the faculty have to present their research deals and all the money that's flowing, and that has to be de-conflicted to make sure that it's transparent. That's for thousand of dollars. Now, remember, we're creating something here that's hundreds of millions of dollars, so we're going to work on this together. And I again, when I respect my relationship with all seven of my colleagues, very disappointed this wasn't on the agenda. Again, I'd like to

thank Trustee Vassar and Denno for supporting to put it on the agenda. I think that would have been nicer to talk about that and that way. But now we have to ask the question is, well, why was it pulled off? And why couldn't we talk about that? But again, this is not the MSU board of the past, where trustees are slamming each other and all that nonsense, like we can disagree without being disagreeable. We will conduct ourselves professionally and within procedural guidelines, and you need to hold us accountable in every way, shape or form. I think oftentimes the students, you know, set the best example here, and we're going to follow. But again, I'm optimistic. I think we have a great board, we have a great president, we have great athletic director, and we just make need to make sure all the trustees are involved and that they're not cut out of anything. And again, I'll stick around answer questions. You can email me because I know it's a topic, but again, thank you for listening. That's all I have to say today.

Trustee Denno provided the following report.

Thank you, Trustee Balow, for your hard work on that and sorry for the way it went down. My only other comment is, once again, I want to thank all our first responders, especially our police, for all you do to keep our community safe. Thank you.

Trustee Bahar-Cook provided the following report.

Well, I'm going to lighten it up with some show and tell. I'm sure some of you have seen this already, but if you haven't, it's certainly worth a quick watch. Cue the screens. I'm sure you're all caught Sparty on the hood of that car. So MSU, for the second year, is featured in a new We Are Here advertisement highlighting Big Ten University's leading role in educating students and driving economic prosperity. You may recall a recent independent economic impact study conducted by the Michigan Association of State Universities, which shows MSU, and all other public universities generate nearly \$45 billion, with a B, in new economic activity each year. MSU alone accounts for approximately \$9.7 billion of that total, underscoring MSU was one of Michigan's leading engines of research, workforce, advancement and economic growth. Special shout out to the university communications and marketing staff. Thank you, Heather, who are a part of a broader team from other Big Ten universities that helped to put the ad together, and you already did the round of applause. So, thank you for that. I also wanted to acknowledge and extend a huge congratulations to Renee Miller Zientek. She is the executive director of MSU's Center for Community Engaged Learning. Recently, she received national recognition for her work and leadership in helping to advance equitable community engaged learning and civic participation. Miller Zientek, Zientek, sorry, received a Nadinne Cruz Community Engagement Professional Award from Campus Compact, a national coalition of colleges and universities committed to public purpose in higher education. For more than 20 years, Miller Zientek has helped to champion community engaged learning in Michigan and nationally through programs, scholarships and partnerships grounded in access, reciprocity, and

transformation. In addition, Roberto Garcia an MSU Junior, majoring in English and sociology, received a Campus Compact Student Leadership Award. Garcia was one of four students nationwide to receive the award, which recognizes his leadership community impact and commitment to learning from and deeply engaging with communities. Garcia is a member of the 2025-26 Community Engagement Scholars Program, an initiative of the Center for Community Engaged Learning and the Office of the President. Over the last several years, Garcia has helped to foster collaborative campus and community partnerships, like promoting housing access in Lansing or expanding youth programming in the region. How about a round of applause for both of these stellar leaders. And Dean Chambers did not mention when he was up earlier the 10th Annual Honors Giving Back Awards, which was hosted by the Honors College last week at Campbell Hall, honors students' submitted short videos on community engagement projects that they have been involved in, and the college awarded a total of \$3,000 provided by MSUFCU across eight finalists. Provost McIntyre was there with me as well. Submissions included projects such as empowering students through art, tackling housing insecurity, detecting breast cancer in underserved communities and addressing discomfort and bias in sexual and mental health. Now I want to point out one particular student who really, really wowed me with his presentation, and he was the student who received the \$1,000 grand prize, but Benjamin Nketsiah was awarded \$1,000 for his winning project, She's Strong, using digital AI to transform triple negative breast cancer detection and care for women, for West African women, and I would say also for women of African American descent. In his third-year honors college, he's from Ghana. He's studying biochemistry and molecular biology through the College of Natural Science. He founded the nonprofit, She's Strong, and developed an app using artificial intelligence to improve triple negative breast cancer detection and care in women. Six hundred and fifty women have already done the screening, all of West African ancestry, and who are now finding out that they are at significantly higher risk compared to other populations. Nketsiah said the financial winnings from the Honors College Giving Back awards will help him subsidize mammogram screenings for women who cannot afford them, and I'm also very excited to say that we were able to connect him to the Burgess Center as well. And so, I'm hoping that what he has put together will continue to expand and unfold and include a lot more women in the future. So, from helping women with breast cancer, we're going to move to a baby donkey who received critical care from the MSU veterinarian. So, a newborn donkey named Bobby was brought to the Veterinary Medical Center with serious health concerns, including hypothermia, pneumonia and risk of sepsis. A dedicated team of veterinarians and staff provided immediate around-the-clock care, while keeping the owner closely informed and involved. Thanks to their efforts, Bobby made a strong recovery and is now healthy and back home. Trustees Balow, Denno, and I were fortunate to get a behind the scenes tour of the College of Veterinary Medicine, small and large clinic on campus. We learned a lot about the facility, how it's used to teach our students, and the benefit it serves our local community. So, for all of the folks who work in that center, thank you very much. And finally, speaking about MSU benefit to our community, I'd like to add my

congratulations to both the distinguished professors and endowed chairs that were honored on March 10, as well as the staff honored for their work on campus at the Inclusive Excellent Awards on April 10. MSU is such a better community because all of those who were honored chose to share their talents with us here. So, thank you for all of that.

Trustee Tebay provided the following report.

I can't get my video to work, but I am here. Good morning, everyone. Some exciting news I have to share this morning is that MSU is closer than ever to a major milestone, and that's \$1 billion dollars in annual research expenditures. In fiscal year 2025 the University reported more than \$992 million in research spending, marking a 6.5 percent increase over 2024 and setting a new record. This growth moves MSU closer to reaching its goal of \$1 billion in research expenditures by 2030. So, what does this mean for you and me? It means continued research efforts leading to cleaner water and more nutritious foods on our table, sustainable energy, fueling our homes and treatments and cures for illnesses and so much more, all helping to improve the lives of the people in Michigan and across the world. Congratulations to our team on all of their hard work and all of the faculty and staff that work to support it. Just last month, the Knight Center for Environmental Justice celebrated 30 years here at Michigan State. The center is focused on helping journalists understand and explain complex environmental issues to the public. The program was launched in the early 1990's when growing concerns about water pollution, air quality and habitat destruction became pervasive topics demanding deeper and more consistent media coverage. The center was launched by John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which created the nation's first endowed chair in environmental journalism within MSU School of Journalism. Over time, the Center developed specialized classes, supported student reporting initiatives such as the Great Lakes Echo and hosted workshops and conferences that connected journalists with scientists and policy makers. Its geographic focus has often centered on the Great Lakes basin examining issues such as climate change, effects on regional water levels, agriculture impacts and freshwater protection. Congratulations to the team, and cheers to another 30 years. Finally, I want to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for MSU alumni, Jay and Jill Craig, who announced in late February a transformative \$26.25 million commitment to strengthening student success and the Eli Broad College of Business and College of Social Science. The Craig's commitment to is intentionally structured to support students, both now and for future generations to come. A portion of the gift provides direct funding to the Broad College, allowing for the immediate expansion of resources to support hands on learning opportunities and enhancing student support services and academic programming. The other part of the commitment will establish two endowed funds in both the College of Social Science and Broad College, helping to provide long term support for emerging priorities, innovative programming and other transformational student experiences across both colleges. And I just want to say I'm very excited to see so many on the days of graduation. It's one of my favorite things to do as a Trustee, is attend

graduations, and I look forward to seeing you all there, and to our student liaisons, Priyanka, I'm looking forward to working with you again, and Katherine, Lauren and Sarah, I'm so excited to see what comes next for each of you, and I will see you all at graduation. Thanks so much.

Trustee Knake Jefferson provided the following report

Thank you. I will pick up where Trustee Tebay left off, and just also say that it's been such a joy to work with all of you as our student liaisons. And I wish three of you very well, please stay in touch, and I'm looking forward to continuing to work with you, Priyanka. And I really feel like today, we always celebrate students at our board meetings, but today, I feel especially grateful for our students in the many ways we were able to do so, whether it was hearing from our students who are leading our sororities and opportunities, hearing from our student engaged in incredible research, celebrating our Honors College awardees, and beyond that. So yes, I'm feeling a lot of gratitude and a lot of joy right now for the things that are going on for our students, and that's, of course, why we're here. Some of you know that I used to teach some of our students at the Law College from 2006 to 2016. I was a faculty member, and today I am congratulating two faculty members, who were on the faculty at that time, who are now retiring from the Law College, who really are incredible leaders, both at the Law College, but nationally in their fields. First, MSU Law Professor and former dean, David Favre, a founding titan in the field of animal law, who really took what was once a nonexistent legal specialty and transformed it into a global movement. And then also, I want to congratulate Professor Susan Bitensky, who is a formidable scholar, spent nearly 40 years shaping the field of international human rights with a special focus on women and children. Both of them were mentors to me early on in my academic career, I know they've been mentors to many, many now Spartan lawyers, and so I congratulate them both on their retirement. I was also pleased to attend the MSU Research Foundation Board of Directors retreat in February. I'm one of the trustees that has served on that foundation, I'm now in my second year in that role. We welcomed five new board members, which included my fellow Trustee, Rebecca Bahar-Cook, and also our new Vice President for Research and Innovation, Dr Priya. For more than 50 years, the foundation has been a trusted partner to the university, advancing research excellence and serving as a national model for technology commercialization. The Foundation's involvement this week in 517 Entrepreneurship and Innovation Week has been a great example of that work and their partnership with our community, bringing together innovation ecosystem stakeholders from across Greater Lansing and the state. On Tuesday, the Foundation welcomed nearly 500 people in downtown Lansing for the PitchMI Championship, awarding a \$1 million investment to a Michigan based startup. That same day, the MSU innovation celebration recognized faculty, students, researchers and inventors whose work is driving real world impact and contributing to Michigan's economic growth. University technology commercialization is complex work, and the Foundation continues to demonstrate national leadership in how to do it well with exciting projects ahead. I'm optimistic about where we are

moving forward and how MSU and the Research Foundation will continue to work together, especially in partnership with Dr Priya's office. And I look forward to seeing all of you at commencement as well. That concludes my remarks.

Trustee Scott provided the following report.

Thank you, I want to just start with a general comment that I am going to, maybe put up for a board vote, that there should be bagels with the board, it's a joke, you all, because there is pancakes with the president, and pretzels with the provost it was joke alright. Got ya. I just want to make a few comments before I get into my prepared comments. First, I do respect Trustee Balow, and I appreciate his comments, I also agree that as trustees we have to be in a position where we can respect others' opinions and perspectives respectfully and disagree respectfully. And so, I wanted to just add a couple comments just so that there is a different, maybe, perspective that can be offered in the comments here and that is that the Spartan Ventures has been created in the same way in which the MSU Research Foundation was, and the companies that are affiliated with it, approximately 53 years ago. And so, as a former member of the MSU Research Foundation and I know that we have two trustees that sit on that board, I do not believe that there has been any concern from the board's behalf on the way those affiliated companies were created or about the Research Foundation, I think that there has been good governance and there has never been a question about that. The affiliated entities of Spartan Ventures are common at public universities. Foundations, research companies and real estate holding companies, and multi-media rights partnerships, they already operate across higher ed, we're not doing anything that is unethical, we are doing things within the confines of the law, and more than 50 years ago, as I stated, the Research Foundation was established, within a similar affiliation agreement, and so again I just want to create a different perspective. If people are questioning the creation of Spartan Ventures and what we're doing, take a look at what we've done with the Research Foundation, how that is organized, I think it will help you better understand what we are doing currently. And I am going to go into my prepared remarks. Oh, I forgot they were here. I want to first recognize that April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Events are taking place throughout April, honoring our survivors and providing opportunities on our campus community to deepen their understanding of sexual violence prevention and learn how to support students and colleagues more effectively, and foster a safe, respectful environment for everyone. MSU's It's On Us Week of action is a nationally recognized campaign that challenges bystanders to take an active role in preventing sexual assault. The week features programming that empowers the community and its members to intervene, speak up and hold one another accountable. Sexual Assault Awareness Month will close out with Denim Day on April 29 which is an internationally observed day of solidarity with survivors of sexual assault. I encourage everyone to wear denim and use the pound sign Denim Day hashtag to show your support. I want to recognize the work of the Prevention Outreach and Education, which is POE department, who worked tirelessly to provide trauma informed prevention training and campus wide

education. I also want to highlight the critical work of the MSU Center for Survivors, a first of its kind program on a college campus, that provides free, confidential counseling, advocacy and support groups for MSU students, faculty and staff. Additionally, there's a 24-hour hotline, crisis chat and advocacy services are available to anyone in the Greater Lansing community. We also have a stakeholder engagement forum, and based on feedback and recommendations, the board has made the decision, as has already been articulated a few times, that we are going to move back to our September meeting, but we will host the stakeholder engagement forum on September 10 as well. The forum will build on last year's inaugural forum, which generated meaningful dialog, actionable ideas, and strengthened relationships across university stakeholder groups. This year's forum will broaden participation, deepen engagement, and provide opportunities for robust dialog. Nomination forms will be available soon, and I encourage our community to review and consider submitting a nomination form on a suggested topic for discussion for that. While space may be limited, it's our sincere hope that this opportunity will have selected participants from a very broad pool of nominees. And I want to give a shout out to Dr Alexis Travis, she's back there now. She's lifting her head up. I want to just congratulate you and acknowledge you and your team on the wonderful Spartan Wellbeing Summit that you put forth. It was incredible. I don't know how many people in this room attended it. I had the opportunity and the honor to attend. This was my first time. Learned so much from our students, our faculty and staff, and our keynote speaker, who knocked it out of the ballpark. I would encourage any of you that have not been able to attend that to do so the next time, because you're truly missing out on a very innovative and informative, structured program. And so, thank you for your leadership on that. Dr Travis. While I'm on the topic of health and wellbeing I want to take a moment to recognize Collegiate Recovery Week, an annual celebration led by the Association of Recovery in Higher Education and observed internationally between April 13 and 17. Michigan State is one of nearly 200 universities nationwide with a collegiate recovery program, and our program provides essential resources that help students pursue and sustain recovery while staying enrolled in higher education. The resources include weekly peer support meetings, substance free events around major campus festivities and recovery goal setting. MSU contributions to the collegiate recovery are significant. MSU was the first in Michigan to provide on campus housing to students who are seeking recovery from substance use disorders. And if you've never lived in a dorm and saw the parties and the drinking and some of the things that happened, they probably shouldn't, you may not appreciate how important that is to have housing when you are trying to remain sober, that is just for you and others that are like you. That is extremely important. And I just commend Michigan State, and once again, we're the first and the best. Thank you to CRC, the coordinator, Dawn Kepler, that staff and the students of the CRC who are intentionally building a community grounded in support and empowering our students while being in success. I would also like to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Spartan nickname, which our president had already talked about, which first appeared in print in April 1926 by the Lansing State Journal sports editor, George Alderton. Before Spartans, our previous

nickname was, does anybody know what we were called before? Because I didn't know this initially, up until like a month ago, we were the Aggies. Who knew, right? And guess why? Because of agriculture, right? So, what began as a search for a more exciting athletic nickname has evolved over the past century into a hallmark of excellence and resilience. The centennial anniversary is a proud reminder of the heritage that unites, I'm sorry, our entire Spartan community and our evolution to a global brand that represents the uncommon will of our students and alumni. And finally, I am honored to recognize the 315 of our graduating seniors who have achieved the Board of Trustees award for maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA throughout their time at Michigan State University. That is incredible. Are we going to show their names like we usually do? Okay? Achieving the highest scholastic average possible is a monumental feat that requires immense discipline and to celebrate showing on the screen, all right. And in addition to today's recognition, these graduates will be honored during the convocation. Congratulations to the graduates, and please join me in giving them a big round of applause at the conclusion of their days. You were ready. Awesome, and that concludes my remarks. Thank you.

13. Public Participation on Items Not Germane to the Agenda

1. Mikaela Johnson—Student opinion on decarbonization initiative
2. Evyatar Eliav—MSU decarbonization initiative
3. Colin Reese—MSU decarbonization infrastructure – a student perspective on past efforts, and future possibility
4. Grayson Eckland—MSU decarbonization infrastructure – a student perspective
5. Samuel Nagel-Bennett—The universities previous goals on decarbonization and current trajectory concerns
6. Nicole Buchanan—Introductions to the Trustees
7. Zachary Kaiser—Introductions to the Trustees
8. Hailey McDonald—Emergency housing for undergraduate and graduate students on Michigan State University's campus
9. Valerie von Frank—What's on our minds
10. Aiden Haas—Discrimination at MSU

14. Request to Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Balow, supported by Pierce **THE BOARD VOTED to adjourn** at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stefan Fletcher
Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Board of Trustees

Darryl Z. Seligman

Assistant Professor,
Michigan State University,
Department of Physics and Astronomy.



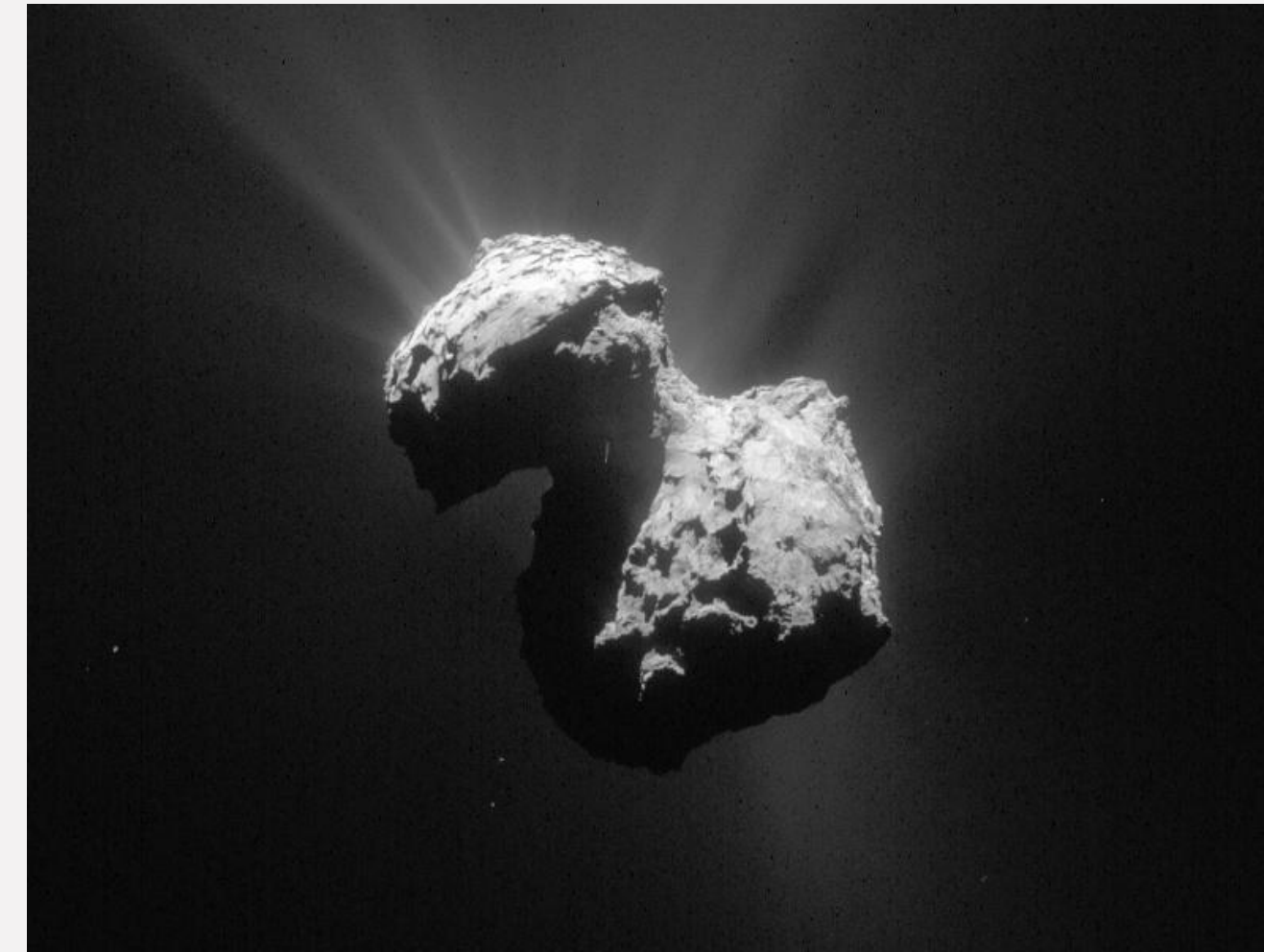
Appendix A

Interstellar Interlopers and Dark Comets

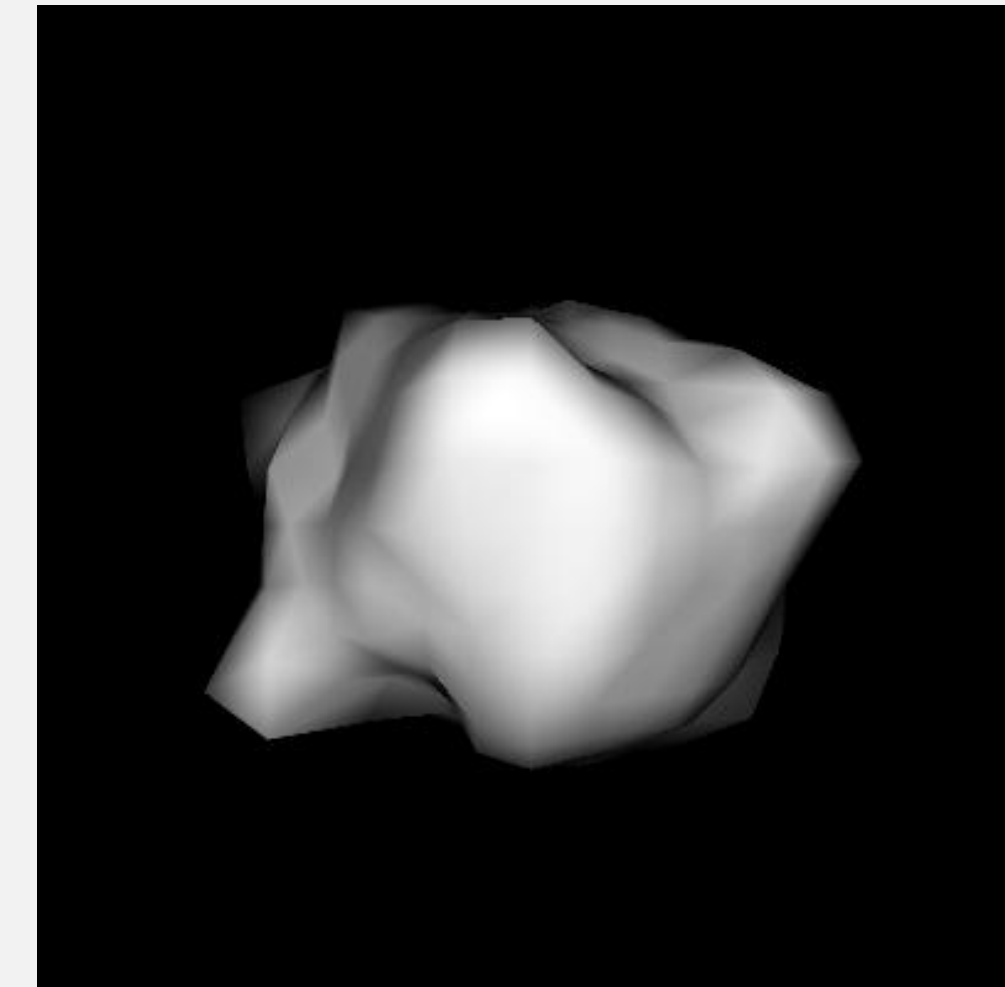
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 6, 2026

We can use **small bodies** to trace the history and evolution of planetary systems.

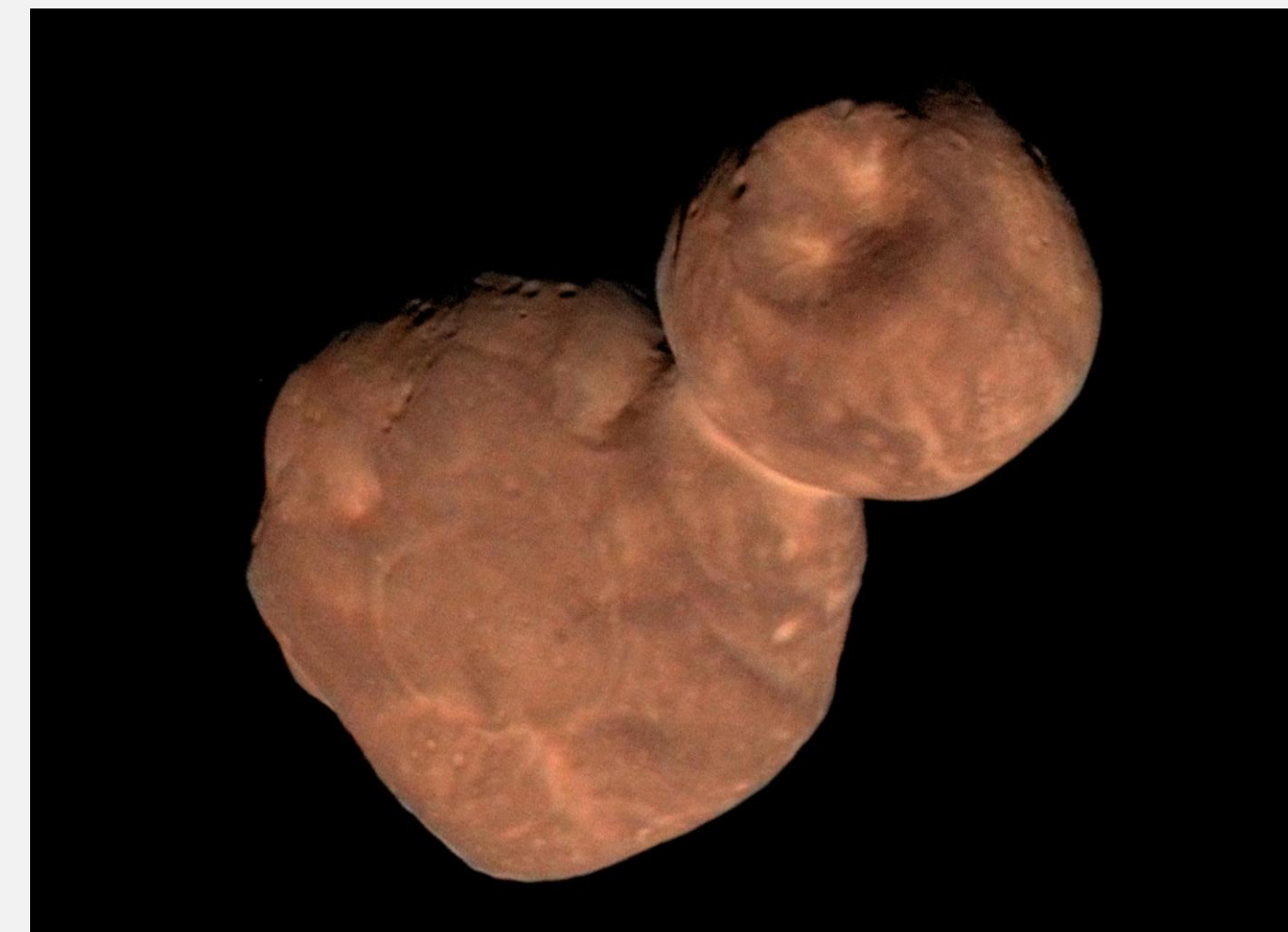
Asteroids and comets deliver **prerequisites** for the development of life to planets.



Comets



Near-Earth
Objects



Trans-Neptunian
Objects

1I/'Oumuamua was the **first interstellar interloper** humans discovered.

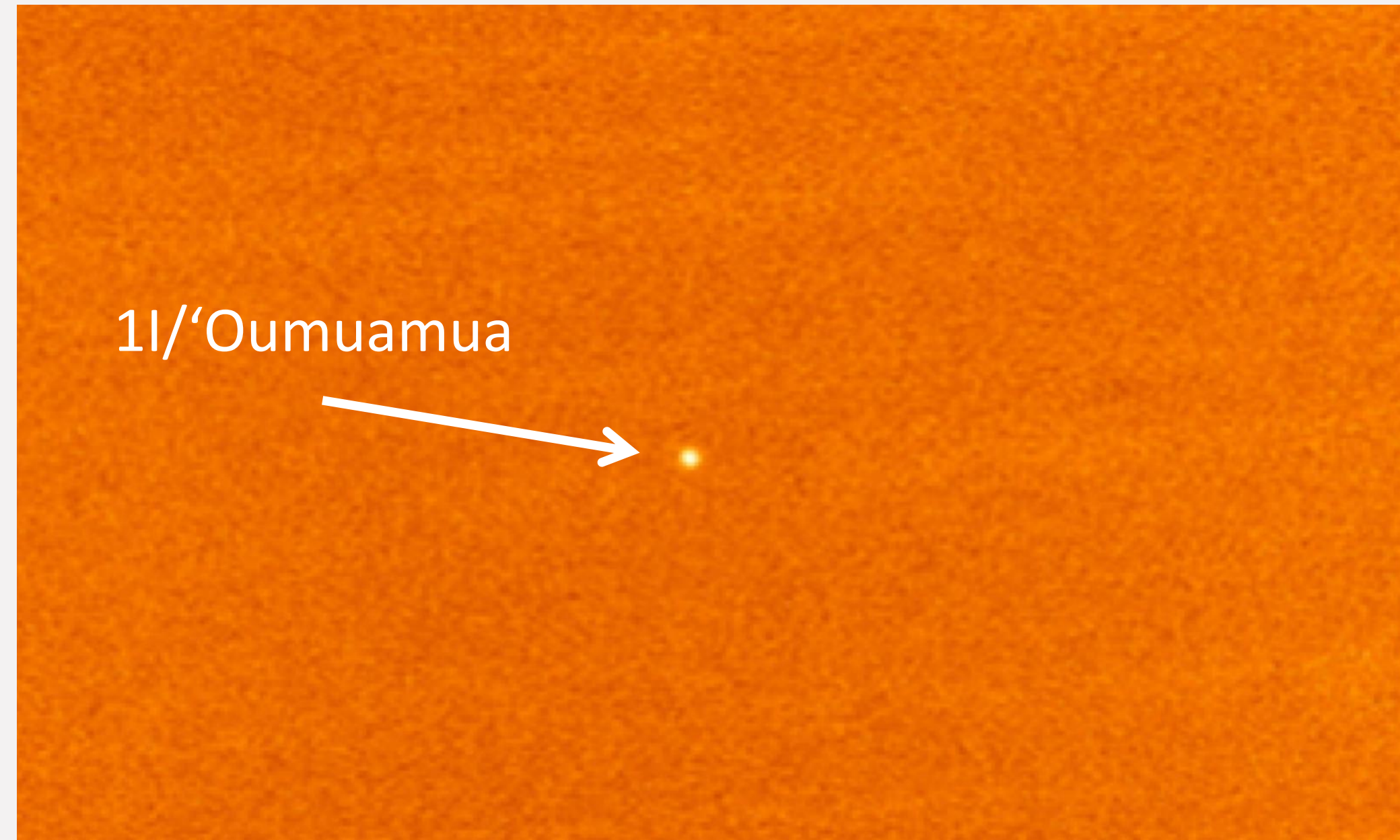
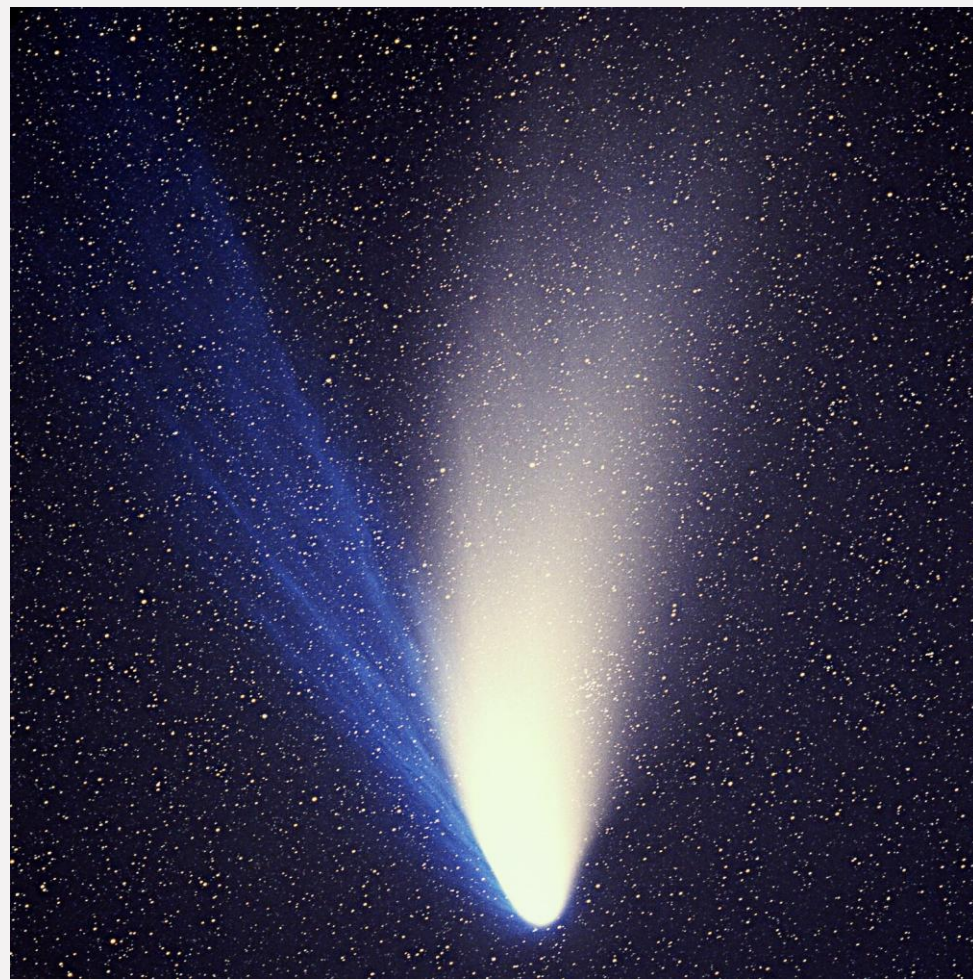


Illustration

Credit: ESO, M. Kornmesser, L. Calçada

Solar System comets have **tails** and **nongravitational accelerations**.

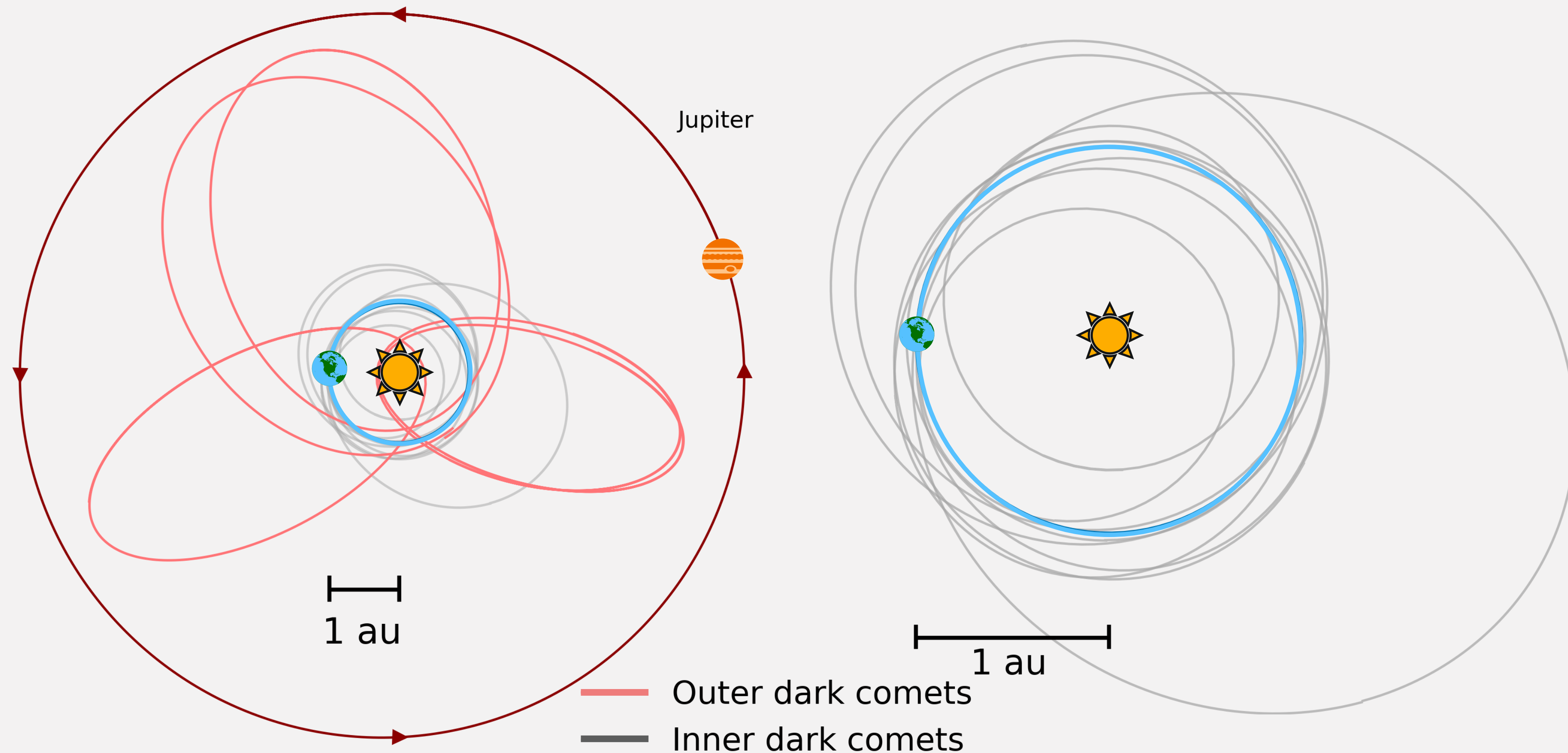
Typical Comet Tail



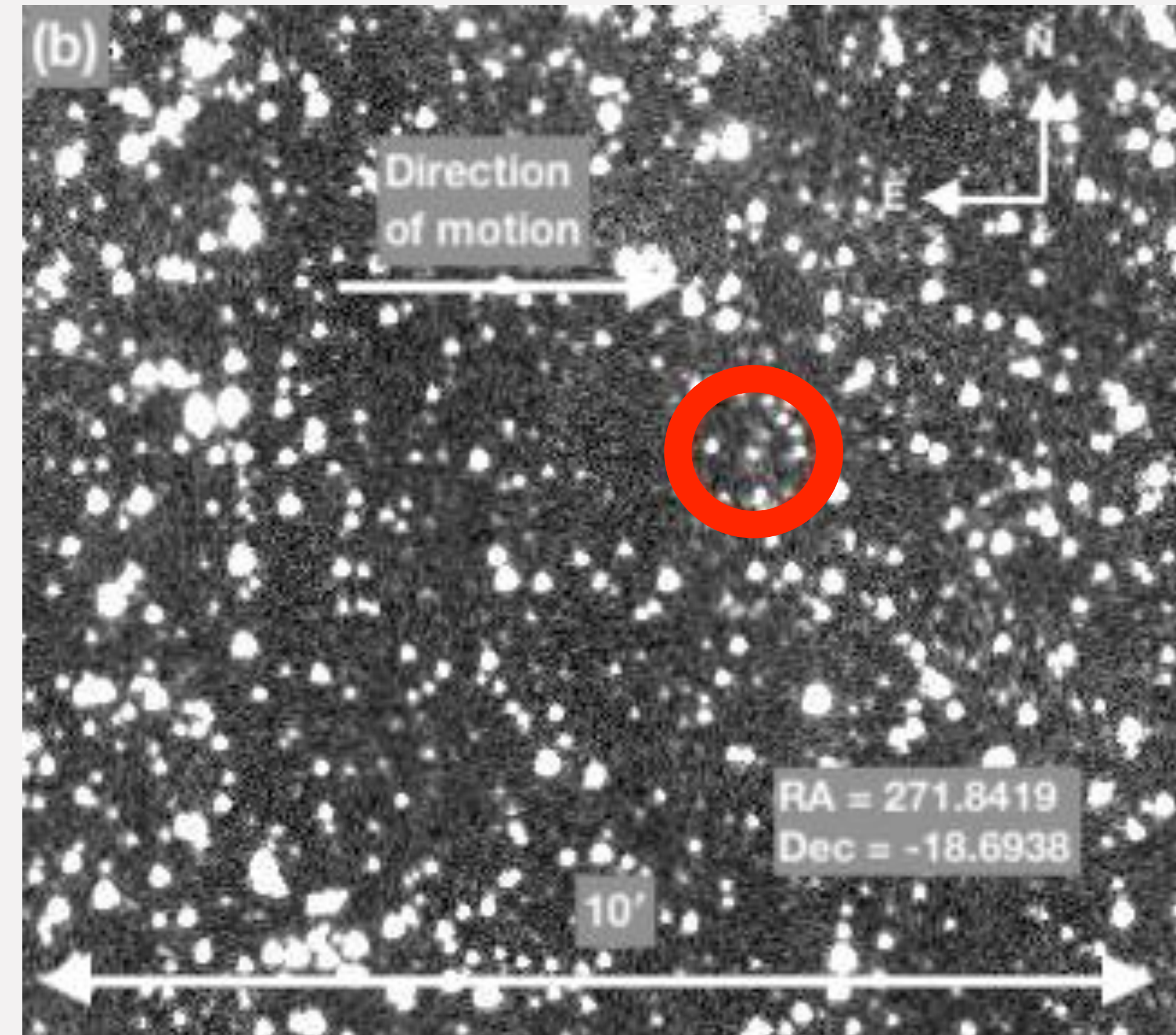
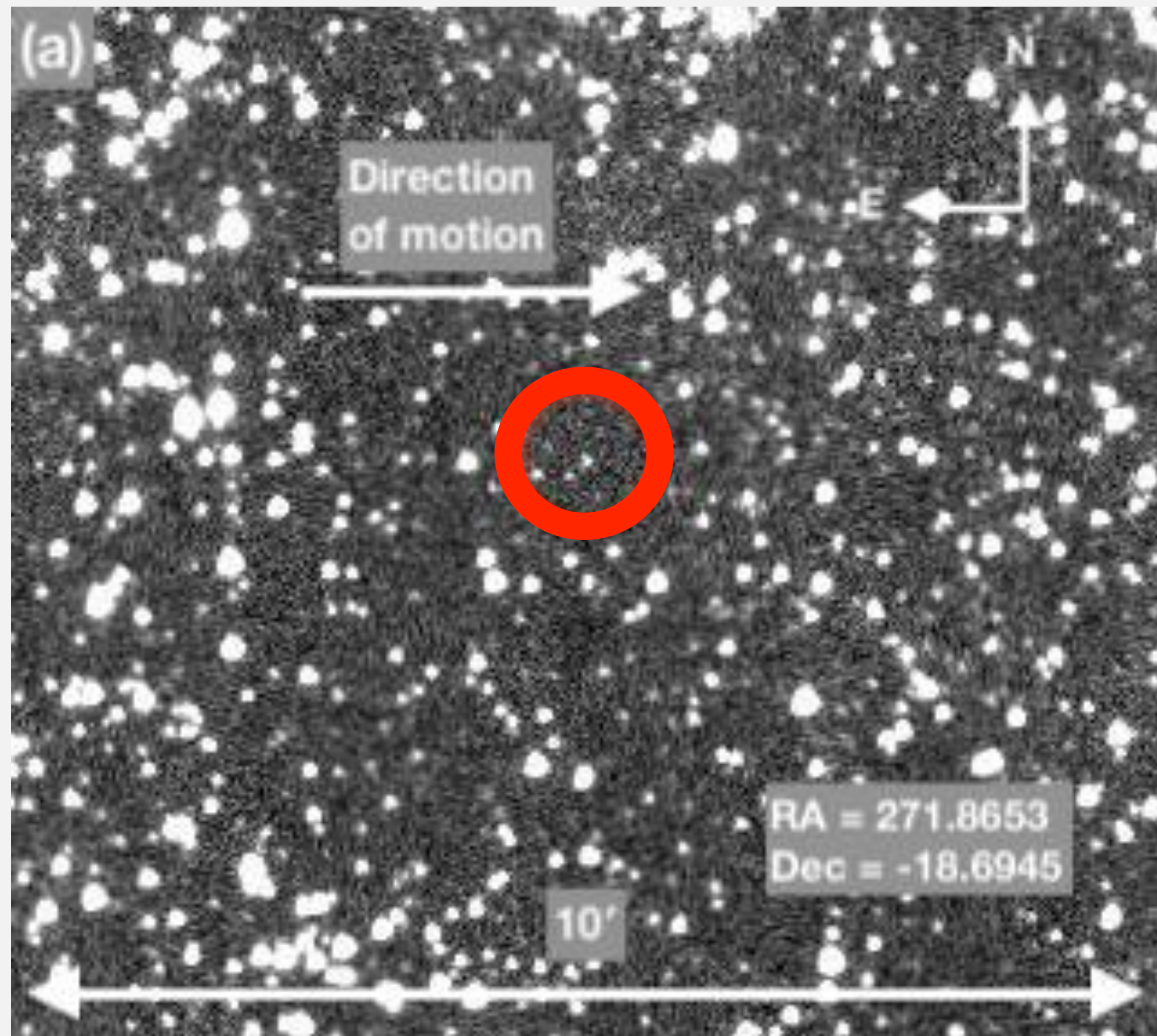
Jewitt & Seligman, ARA&A, Vol 63, 2023

1I/'Oumuamua broke the rules: comet-like nongravitational acceleration and **no tail**.

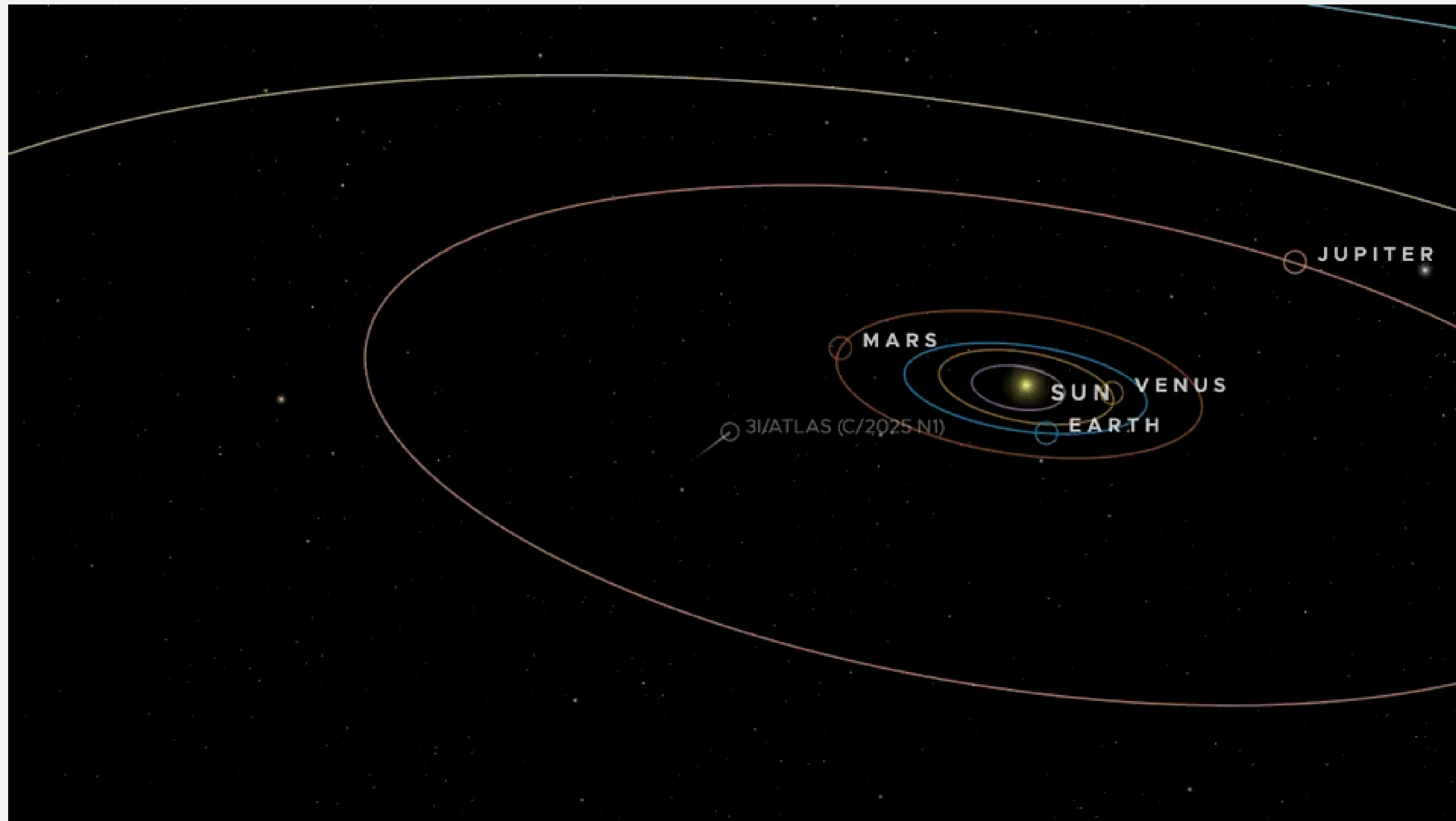
We have since discovered **two populations** of dark comets. Each show **comet-like** nongravitational accelerations **without** tails.



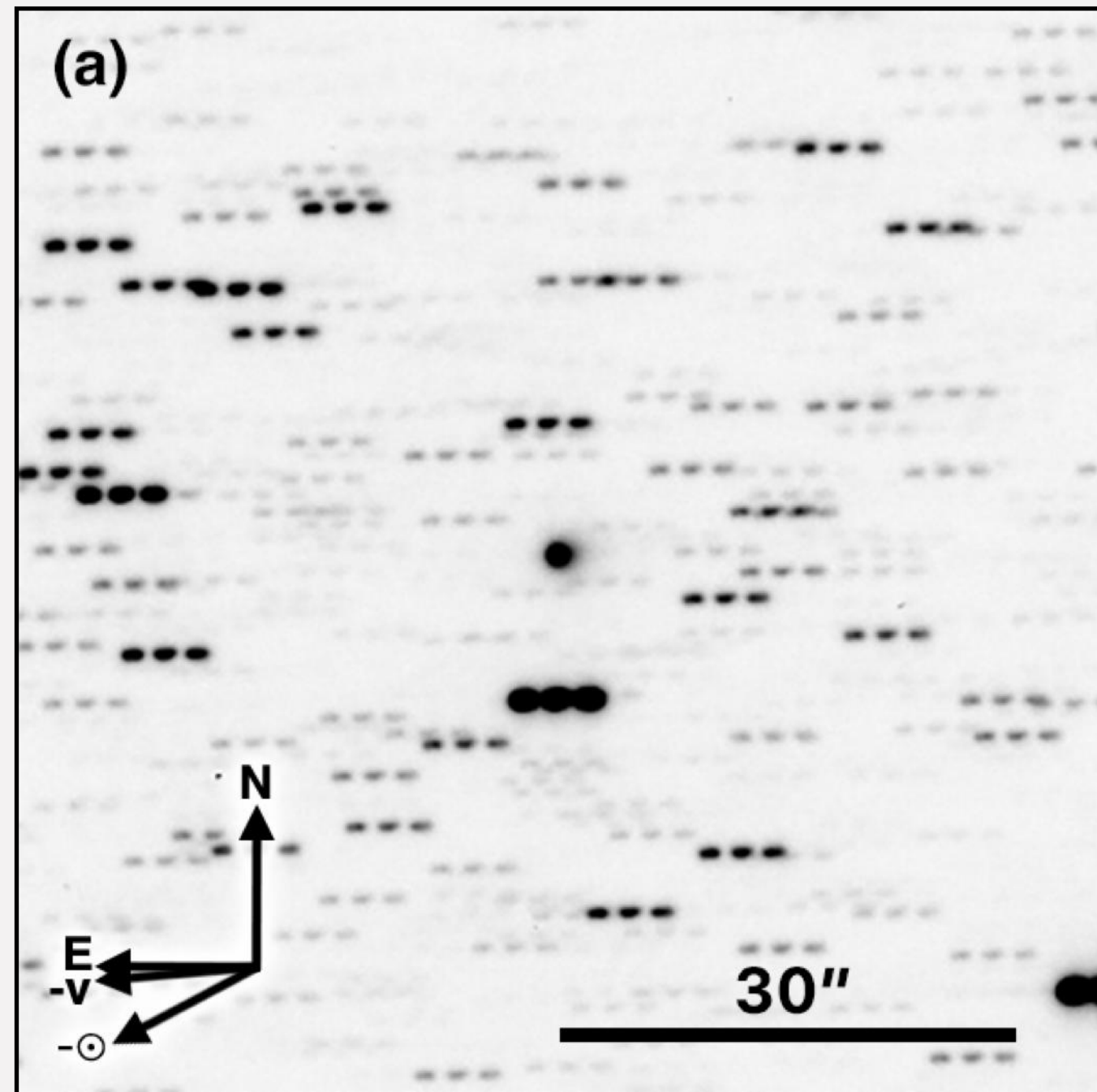
A third interstellar object, **3I/ATLAS**, was discovered on July 1 by the ATLAS Survey.



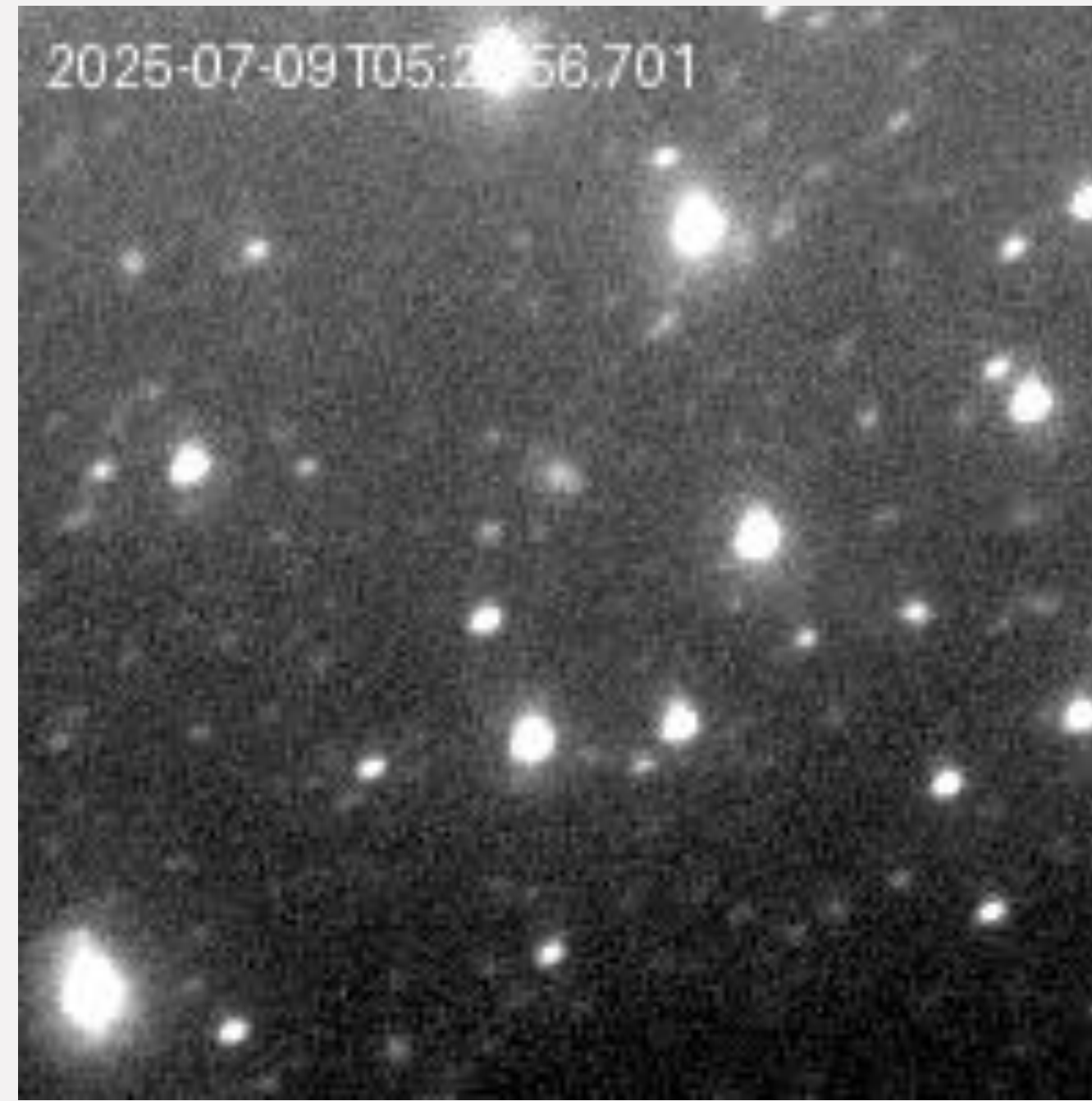
Objective 1: Identify the strongly hyperbolic trajectory.



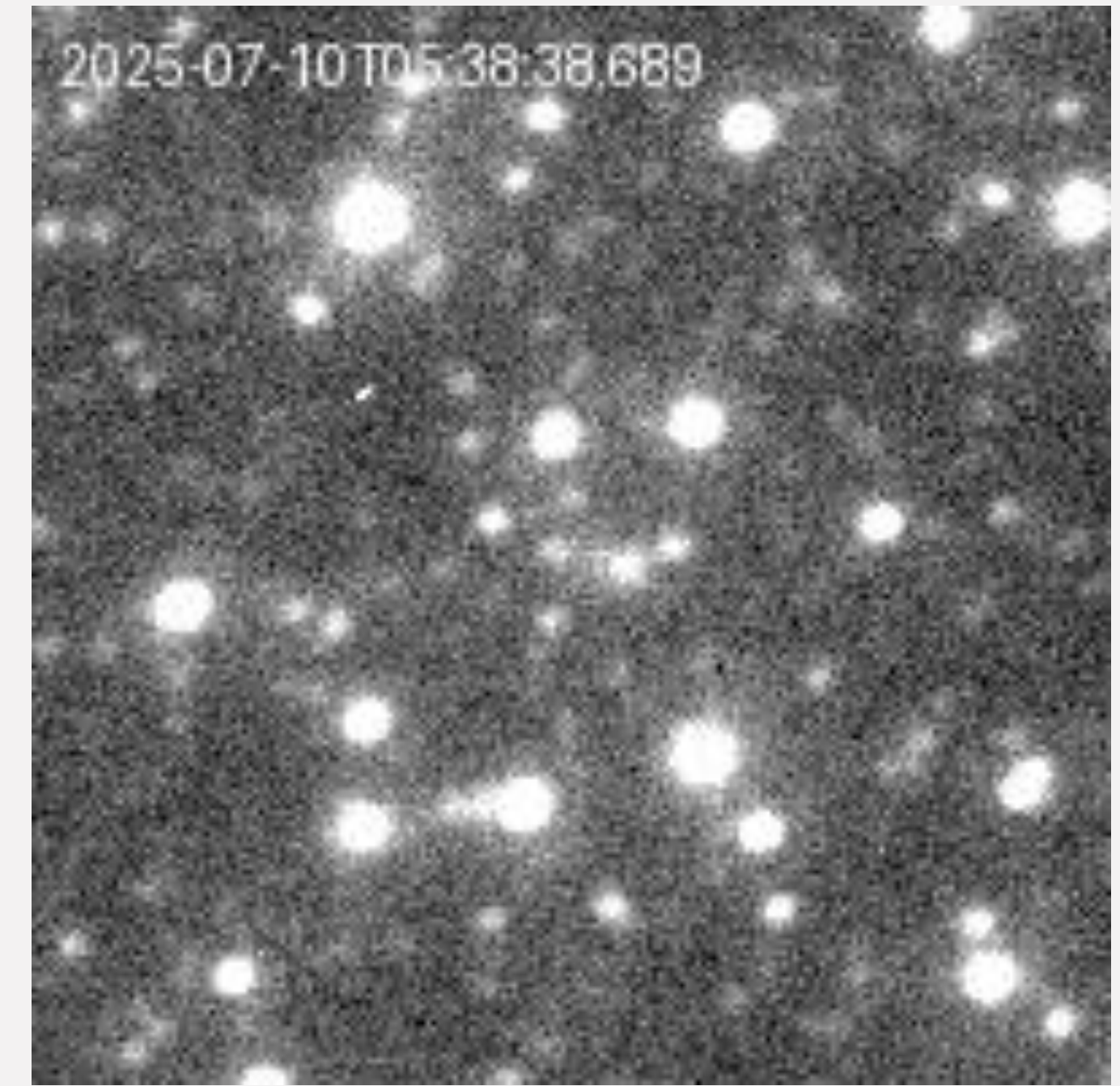
Objective 2: Identify the presence of a cometary tail.



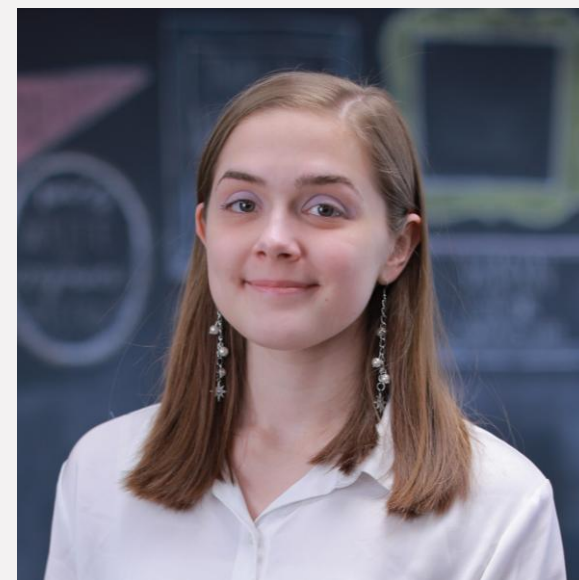
CFHT Image



SOAR Images 09 July 2025

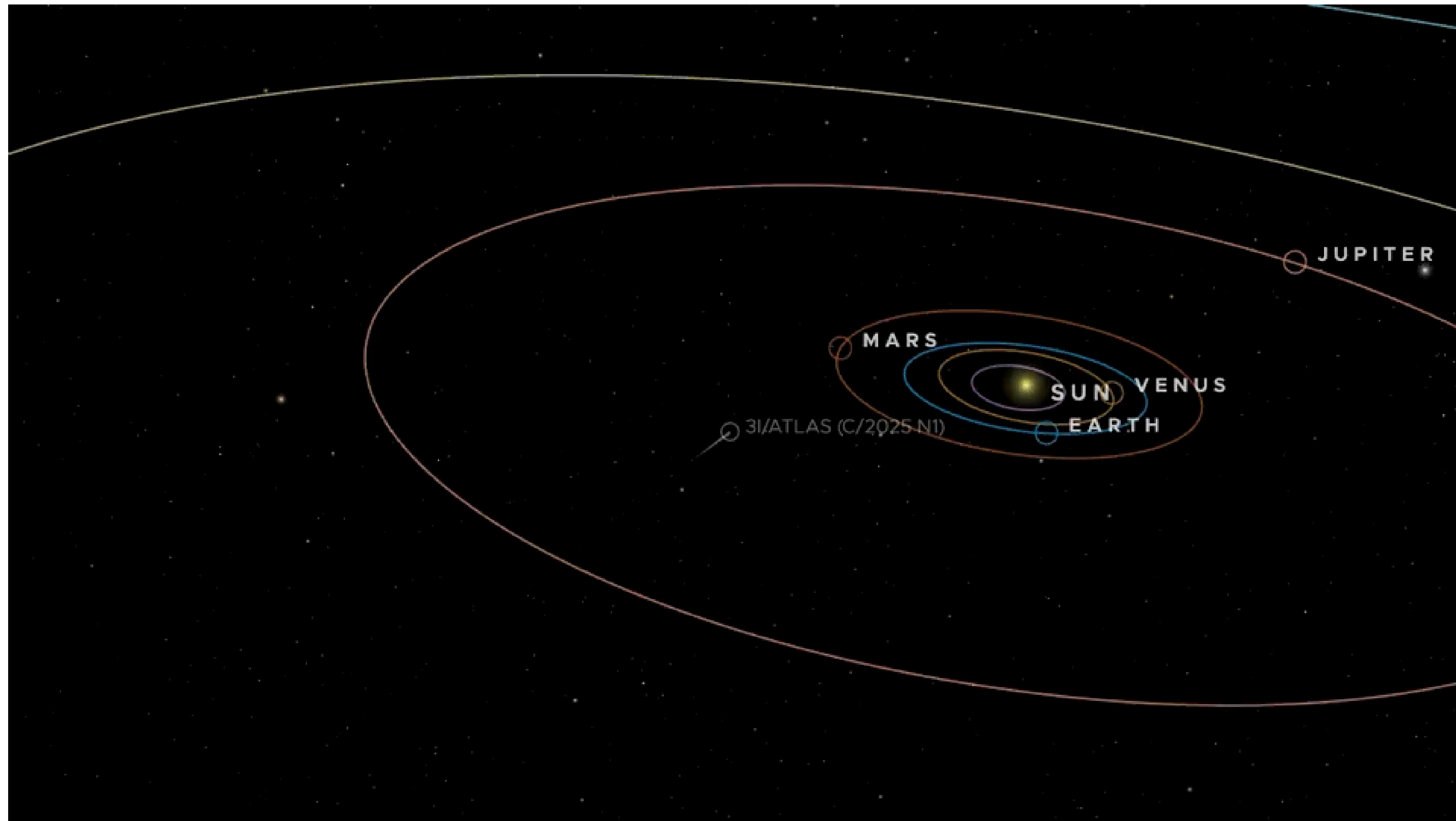


SOAR Images 10 July 2025

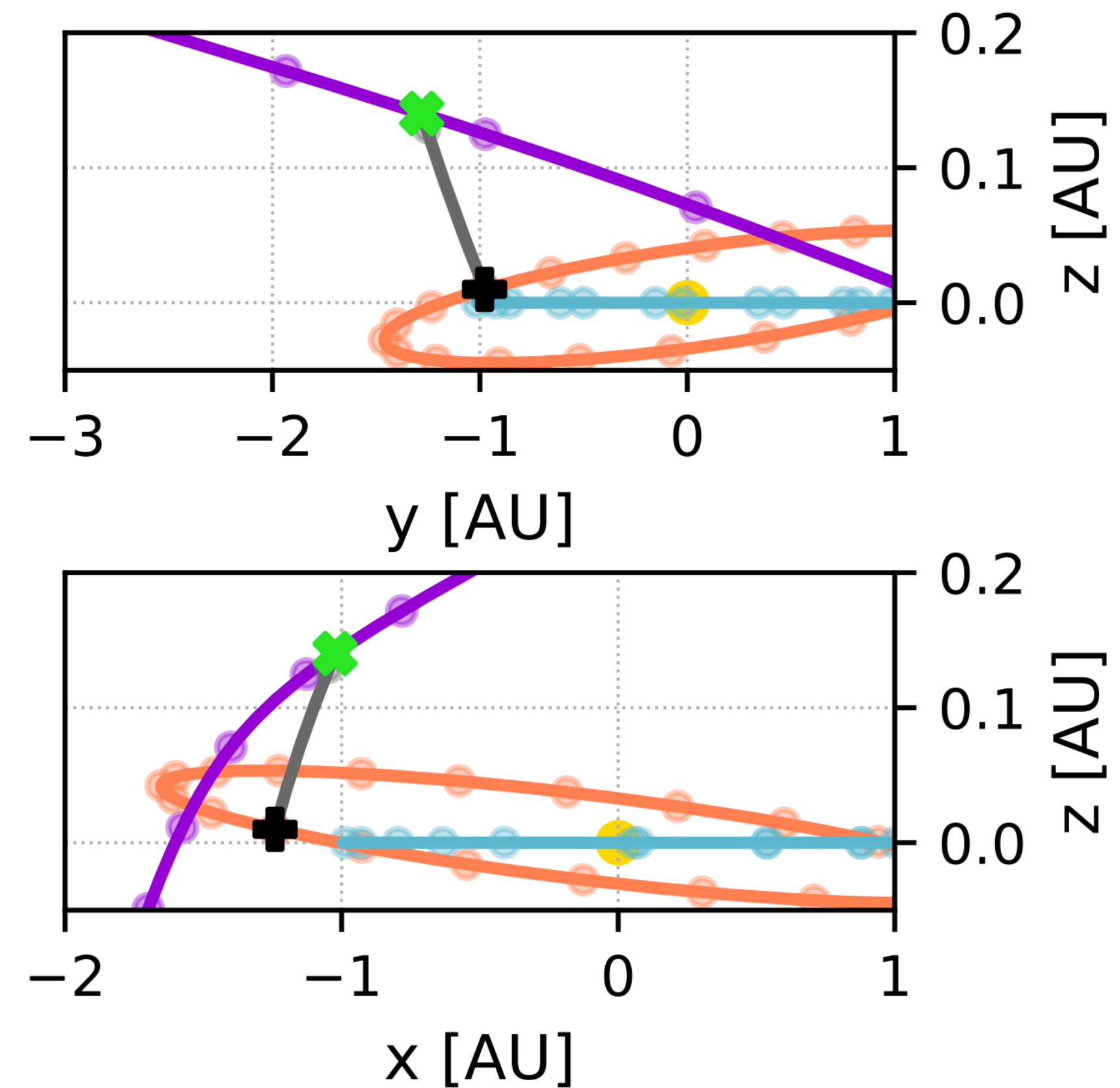
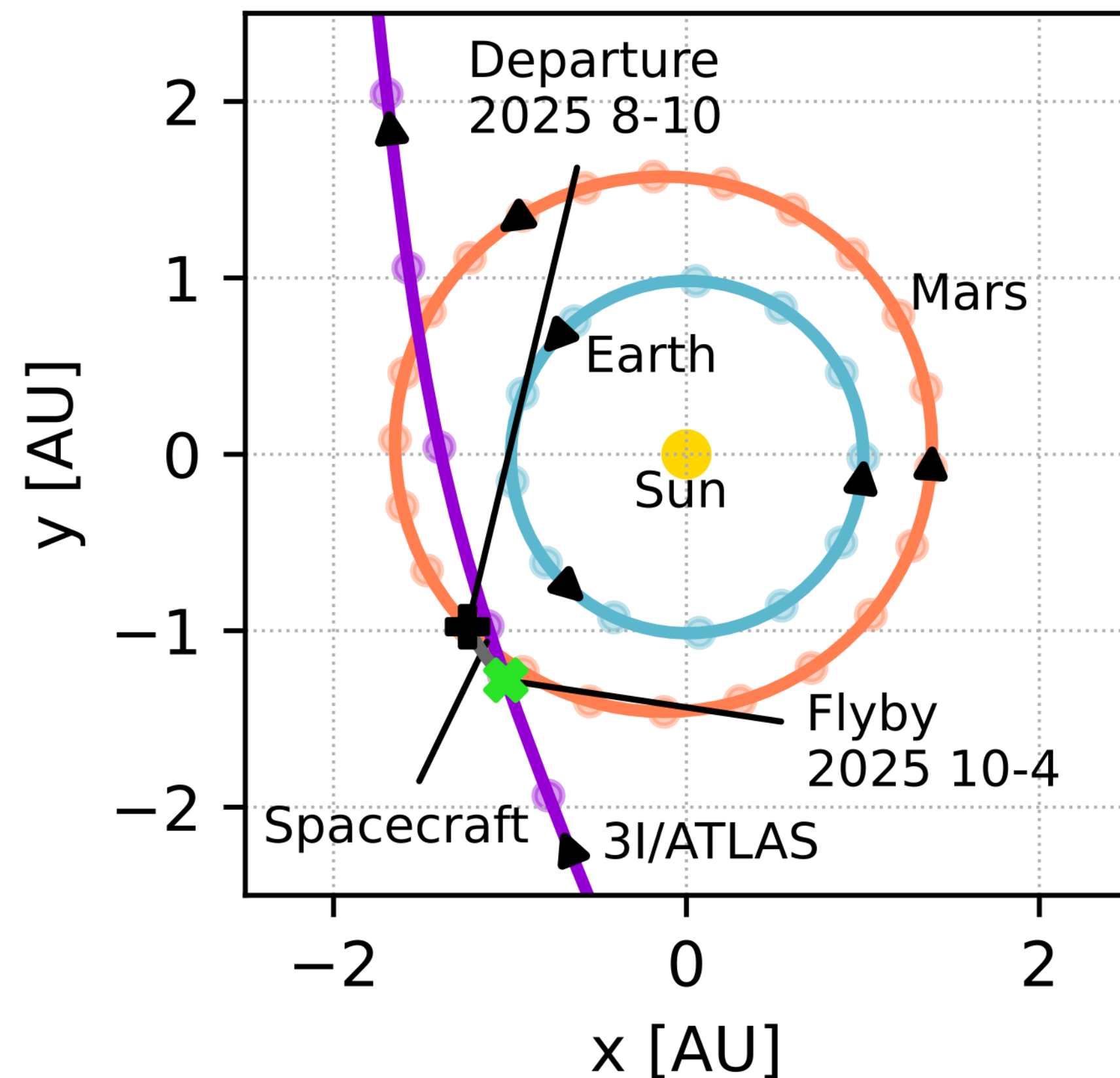


Tessa Frincke, 1st year PhD student at MSU

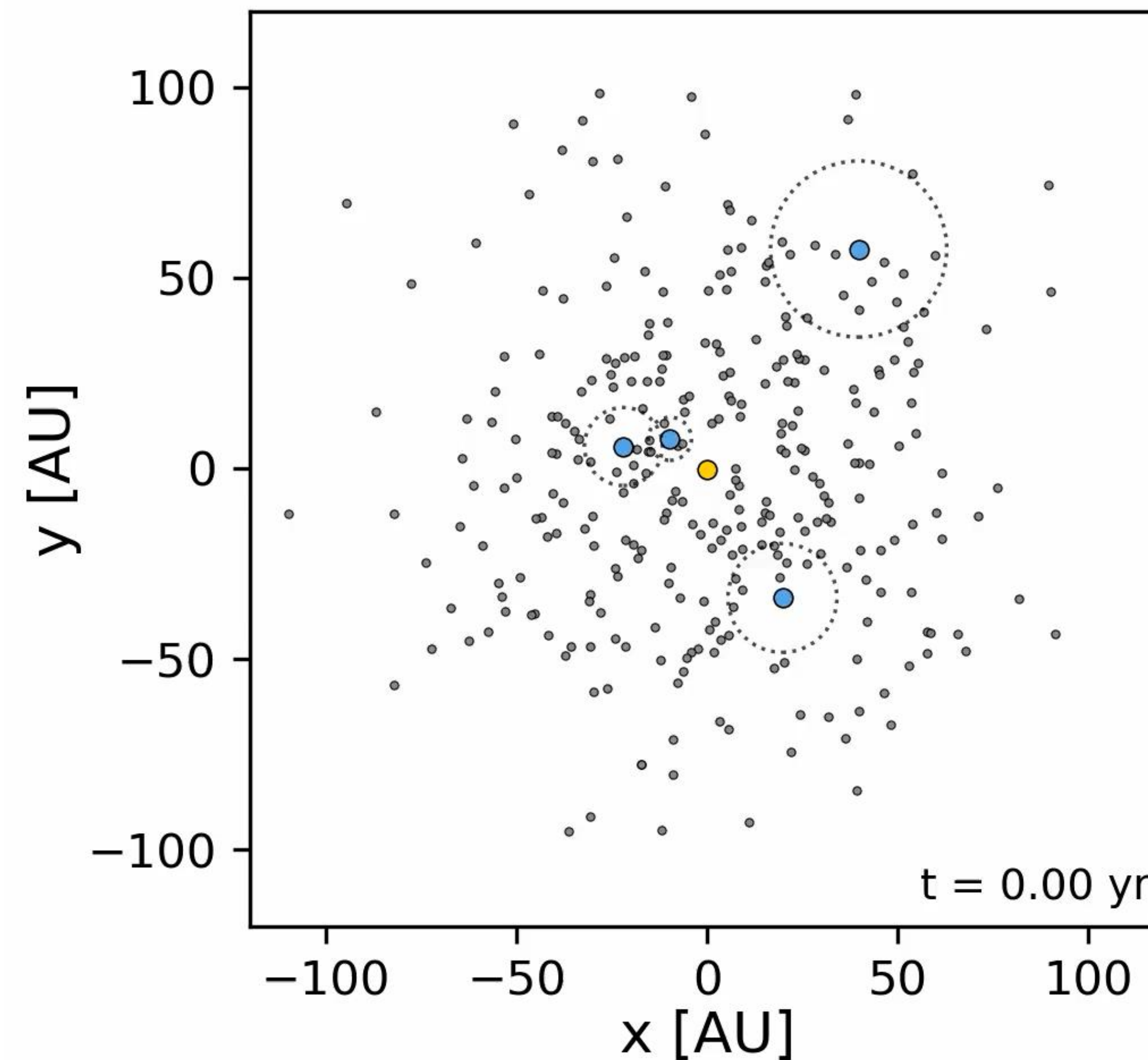
Objective 1: Identify the strongly hyperbolic trajectory.



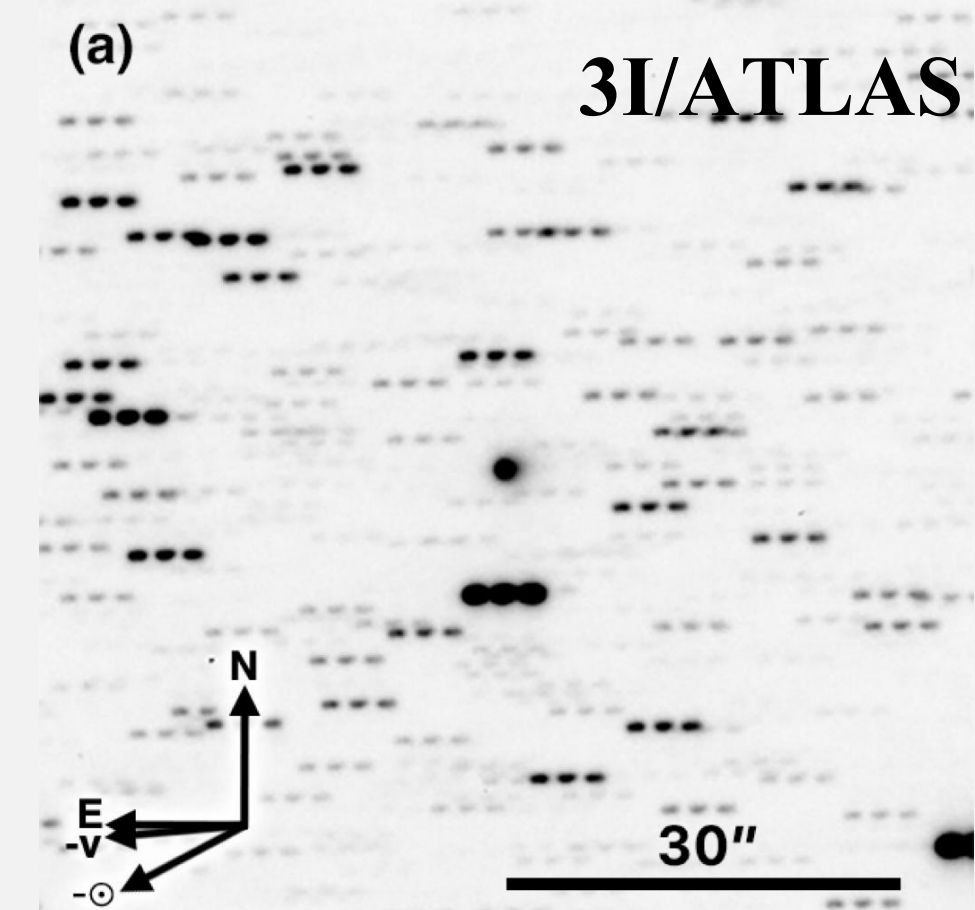
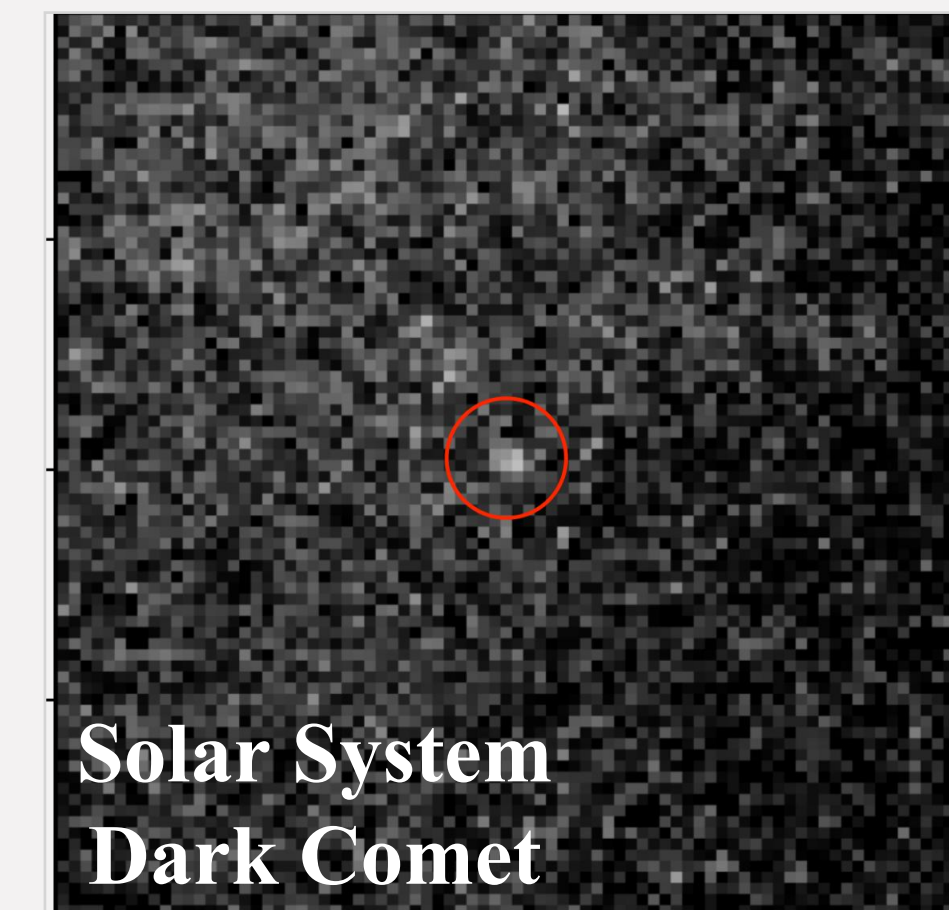
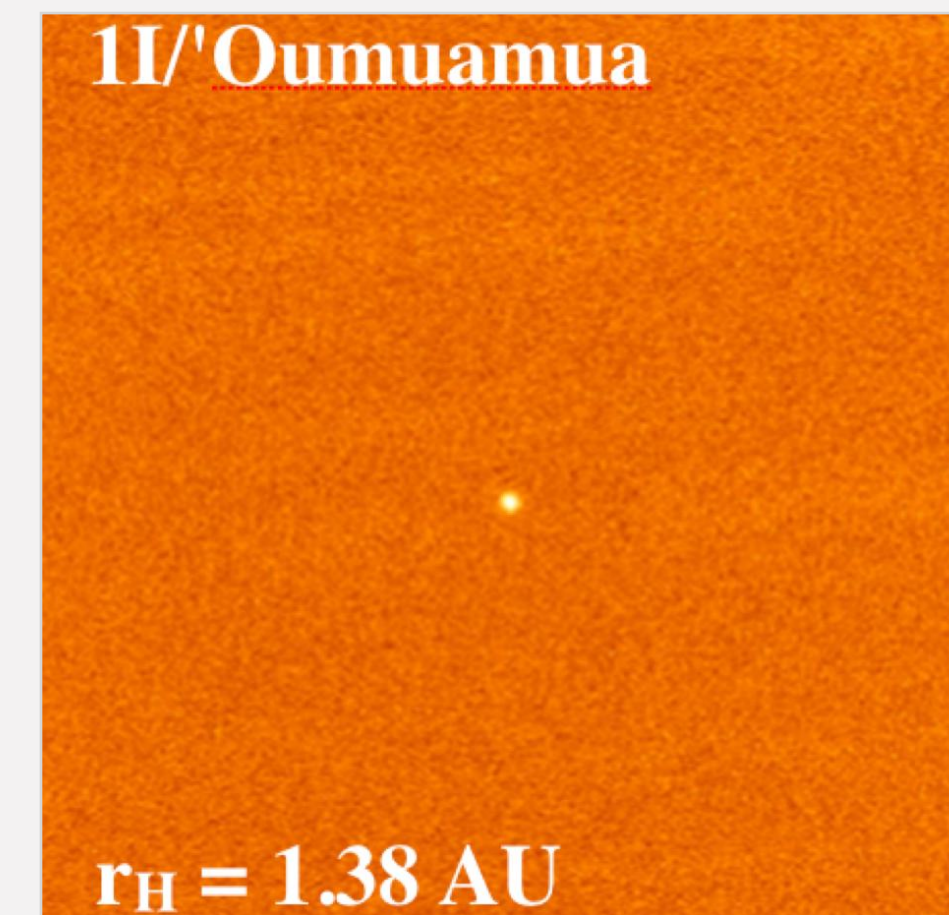
Objective 3: See if we can **send a spacecraft** to 3I/ATLAS!



Objective 4: Identify **origins** of interstellar objects.



- We discovered **14 dark comets** that exhibit nongravitational acceleration and no tails.
- We have identified three **interstellar interlopers** passing through the solar system.
- Observations of dark comets and interstellar objects can **answer questions about the development of life** on planets in our solar system and beyond.



Statement of Appreciation from the Michigan State University Board of Trustees
Honoring the Service of Dan Bollman

The MSU Board of Trustees extends its deepest appreciation to Dan Bollman for his extraordinary career of service, leadership and transformative impact on MSU's built and natural environments.

Dan Bollman began his association with Michigan State as an undergraduate student, earning his bachelor's degree in civil engineering — a foundation that shaped a lifetime of dedication to building and strengthening this institution. Following graduation, he served five years in the United States Navy's Civil Engineer Corps, achieving the rank of lieutenant.

In 1990, Bollman returned to MSU, joining the Planning, Design and Construction unit and soon demonstrated a thoughtful, steady approach to complex challenges and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Early projects, such as the business college complex, set the pace for a career marked by thoughtful stewardship, collaboration, and long-term vision.

Over the next three decades, Bollman's leadership responsibilities grew alongside the footprint of the university. He was named director of Planning, Design and Construction in 2013 and, the following year, appointed assistant vice president of Infrastructure Planning and Facilities (IPF). He was elevated to vice president of IPF in 2019. In each role, he brought integrity and a deep understanding of MSU's academic mission. Bollman helped MSU modernize its approach to project delivery and fostered partnership among architecture and engineering teams, construction managers, and the university.

Bollman has overseen initiatives expanding MSU's physical footprint by more than 3.5 million gross square feet since 2013, helping shape the campus and the experiences of its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Among the most notable projects during his tenure was the stunning Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, designed by the celebrated architect Zaha Hadid.

His leadership was especially important during times of challenge. Bollman helped guide IPF through the 2008 recession, the unprecedented disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the rapid campus growth that followed — always with a steady hand and a focus on people, safety, and continuity of operations.

Beyond MSU's East Lansing campus, he helped navigate Michigan State's regional expansions into Grand Rapids, Flint, and Detroit, ensuring that the university's physical presence supported its broader mission of access, research and community engagement across Michigan.

Equally impressive was his commitment to sustainability. Bollman played a central role in eliminating coal use at the University's power plant and advancing the development of a south campus solar farm.

Recognizing IPF's work beautifying the MSU campus, its Landscape Services department earned the 2025 Professional Grounds Management Society Green Star Gold Award for outstanding performance in turf management, landscape design and maintenance, safety, efficiency, and sustainability.

Bollman also contributed to his profession through involvement and leadership in the APPA – Leadership in Educational Facilities organization, sharing his expertise with peers across higher education.

The Michigan State University Board of Trustees offers its sincere gratitude to Dan Bollman for more than three decades of exemplary service. Upon his retirement, we wish him the best, with many pleasant miles of hiking on the trail ahead.