

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

February 6, 2026

President Guskiewicz called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 9:05 a.m.

Trustees present: Rebecca Bahar-Cook, Mike Balow, Dennis Denno, Renee Knake Jefferson (via Zoom), Sandy Pierce (via Zoom), Brianna Scott, Kelly Tebay, and Rema Vassar (via 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 Beekman, Bollman, DeVooght, Gage, Guerrant, Hintz, Swain, and Tobin. Faculty liaisons present: John Aerni-Flessner. Student liaisons present: Sarah Fireberg, Kathryn Harding, Priyanka Kothari, and Lauren Pelan.

President Guskiewicz provided the following statement.

Welcome to the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees and thank you all for being here. The roads are not great, and you've made an effort to be here with us this morning, so we really appreciate it. Before we begin, I want to acknowledge that this is Board Chair Scott's first meeting as Board Chair, so thank you for being up here alongside me. And I want to acknowledge that Trustee Sandy Pierce, Trustee Renee Knake Jefferson, and Trustee Kelly Tebay are all joining us via Zoom, and I believe Trustee Tebay is enroute, but on Zoom for now. And I think that my understanding is that Trustee Rema Vassar will be joining a little bit later this morning. So, with that, I'm going to call the meeting to order and ask for Board Secretary Stefan Fletcher to offer up details on the meeting protocol.

Secretary Fletcher provided the following statement.

Thank you very much, President Guskiewicz. Today's agenda is filled with several significant action items of university business. There are also several speakers signed up, including those who have come for public participation. As a framework, in the event of a disruption that prevents the Board from conducting business or the members of the public from hearing or observing the meeting, 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 will be no opportunity for public comment at that stage. Individuals found to be disrupting the meeting will be subject to applicable University ordinances and conduct policies. Thank you.

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

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

President Guskiewicz provided the following report to the Board.

And with that we will start with my remarks and so again, welcome, and I want to start on a note that I referenced in my January community letter just a few weeks ago, to our campus and global family of Spartans. And that is that I've been spending a lot of time over the past several weeks meeting with students and faculty who are concerned about the aggressive turn of immigration enforcement across the country, particularly what we've seen unfold in Minneapolis. In addition to our thoughts being with the family and friends and colleagues affected by the events there, we appreciate how such events can impact us locally, and we've been spending time with our community here to express that and to let them know that we are here to support them. We have for decades taken pride in enrolling international students and employing international faculty and staff for decades, but closer to 150 years, so many decades. International students, faculty, and staff are central to Michigan State University's mission. They're part of the fabric of our university and enrich our campus in many ways. And so, we just want to continue on asking everyone to reach out, to be, to lend support during these challenging times. The international aspects of our university necessitate interaction with federal agencies, and I know many people are anxious, feel vulnerable, and want to know what the university will do to support them, and I urge anyone concerned to refer to our online Immigrant Support and Safety resource webpage for information which is being updated regularly. And for those who feel they need support, to access resources such as our Employee Assistance Program. For students, our Counseling and Psychological Services program. We continue to update and augment the university's resources to respond to the needs of the different populations in our MSU community. And I just want to take this opportunity to thank all of those MSU units that are supporting our community members. This includes the Offices of International Students and Scholars, International Studies and Programs, our Government Relations team, all of which are working with our international Spartans, campus partners, immigration attorneys, and international education colleagues nationally to assess the impact of federal actions on MSU and our people. We're working together as one team to support our international students and employees. And one last note on this point, the International Student Association is holding its annual International Student Leaders Summit this afternoon. The summit brings together leaders of more than 20 internationally focused student organizations to meet with university leadership about concerns. So, thanks to those students for their leadership. So, in celebrating our values, we

continue to celebrate inclusive and engaged community, reflecting who we are as Spartans. In January, we hosted our annual Community Unity Dinner as well as the Mid-Michigan MLK Commission as part of our week-long commemoration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our campus continues that mindfulness through a number of Black History Month programs this month. Those include celebrating the first anniversary of our Multicultural Center's opening and the 26<sup>th</sup> year of the College of Osteopathic Medicine's William G. Anderson Lecture Series, Slavery to Freedom - A n American Odyssey. It was a privilege recently to join student honorees, parents and others for our annual Spartan Volunteer Service Awards. Awardees compile at least 100 hours of community engagement, and last year alone, 205 Spartans, that we celebrated just a few weeks ago, logged more than 42,000 hours of service to their communities. Such experiential learning helps prepare students to thrive and to give back to their communities, which is a key Spartan values as a proudly public land grant university, engaging directly with our communities and partners to address the challenges in front of society is a defining legacy that we're proud of. We are, after all, ranked number one among public universities in service learning, and most recently, once again, earned validation with the 2026 Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement. So, congratulations to everyone who's leading in this effort or engaged in any of these programs. We've also been talking a lot and doing a lot around career preparation and readiness, career readiness for our students and collaborating with industry leaders. One of the industries employing Spartan graduates is the automotive industry. Last month, I had the pleasure of attending my first Detroit Auto Show. And for anybody in here who has never been to a Detroit Auto Show, you've got to go. You got to check it out. I'm not a car guy, but I will tell you that I could have spent the entire week there. It was fascinating. But had the opportunity to participate in a dialog, a fireside chat with former US Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg on the future of mobility and how higher education is responding to the challenge, and MSU is certainly responding to the challenge in much, much of the work that we do. So that was a fascinating few days down in Detroit. And then at the Detroit Policy Conference last week, I joined our partners from Henry Ford Health and the Detroit Pistons on a panel to discuss how our collaboration is bringing innovation and investment to health care in Detroit and beyond. Such collaboration is also reflected in the important work of our Green and White Council, which I appointed last April, and we recently announced three signature initiatives recommended by the council, designed to strengthen our preparation for workforce readiness and economic impact here in Michigan and beyond. The first of these initiatives is our AI-Ready Spartans, which seeks to expand digital and AI competencies across the undergraduate experience. The second, called Career Connected Spartans, expands access to career exploration and experiential learning. And the third, we're calling Spartan Catalyst, which accelerates collaboration between MSU researchers and industry partners that they know that they've got the world class expert researchers and faculty here on our campus, within arm's reach to help advance their respective industries. Together, these initiatives will add impetus to our commitment to prepare graduates for meaningful careers, while further aligning research with real

world needs. I'm grateful for the work of the council's 18 members and look forward to working with the provost and our world class faculty to more fully integrate these objectives into our academic programs. Our work preparing graduates for jobs that might not even yet exist, took an important step forward this week with the start of construction on our new Engineering and Digital Innovation Center. More than a new facility, this project represents our long-term commitment to digital learning, interdisciplinary collaboration, and translating discovery into impact. It's going to bring together six or seven of our colleges on campus, faculty across multiple departments, to re-imagine and rethink the way we're going to train our students for future careers. I'm pleased to note that our momentum for the project has been strengthened by two extraordinary philanthropic investments. We announced earlier this week a \$50 million gift from the Leinweber Foundation, the largest facility gift in MSU's history, and the largest benefiting an academic initiative. Today, we will officially name the building the Leinweber Center for Engineering and Digital Innovation. In addition, we'll be talking about a \$10 million commitment from the Spalding family that will further accelerate this work. We're pleased to designate the facility's atrium in their honor, so many thanks go out to alums, Larry Leinweber and Dave Spalding for their exceptional generosity. These investments reflect firm confidence in MSU's mission and will activate talent among the students, faculty, and staff, building our future. At the same time, our Uncommon Will, Far Better World campaign continues to gain remarkable traction. Thanks to the generosity of more than 132,000 Spartans worldwide, we've raised \$1.8 billion, matching the total of our previous campaign in half the time. With its \$4 billion goal, this campaign reflects both the urgency of today's challenges and the alignment of a community committed to MSU's future. More than supporting this institution, the impact of such vision extends across the entire state. Recently, I joined the Michigan Association of State Universities to unveil new findings showing that Michigan's 15 public universities generate tens of billions of dollars in net new economic activity annually. As one of the state's four research intensive universities, MSU contributes robustly to the economic growth in every Michigan county. We recently learned that Michigan State's statewide annual impact has grown, factoring in our healthcare and medical operations, to more than \$9.7 billion through our discovery outreach operations and our more than 305,000 alums statewide, something that we should be very proud of. A fine example of how we serve both campus scholars and community is our newly renovated MSU Museum, whose collection dates to the very earliest days of the university. The museum recently reopened after an 18-month project, its first major renovation in more than 75 years. And if you haven't had a chance to check it out, please do. With updated spaces and critical climate upgrades supported in part by the generosity of the Forest Akers Trust, the MSU Museum is better positioned to preserve its million-object collection and expand its mission of interdisciplinary learning, dialog and discovery for our campus community and beyond. I'll note here that to support our university's vital research mission, we recently announced the selection of Shashank Priya as MSU's next Vice President for Research and Innovation, pending Board approval today. His appointment follows a national search and anticipates the retirement of Doug Gage, whose

research and leadership has strengthened MSU's research enterprise over many years. I look forward to welcoming Dr. Priya when he joins us later this month. I want to mention a few points of pride focused before I wrap up. First, congratulations to MSU College of Music faculty members Xavier Davis and Michael Deese on winning the Grammy this week for Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album as members of the Christian McBride Big Band. Xavier Davis is Associate Professor of jazz piano, and Michael Deese is the Red Cedar Distinguished Professor of jazz trombone, and it's the fourth time that these two artists have won a Grammy as members of this band. Next, Michigan State continues to earn strong national recognition for the quality of our programs. 2026 US News and World Report rankings of online graduate programs recently awarded top placements to MSU Business, Education and Criminal Justice programs. And I just want to take an opportunity to congratulate and thank our world class faculty, staff, and leaders in these departments that are being honored through US News and World Report. Also attesting to the excellence of our faculty and students, spartan student athletes last fall semester posted their highest all time cumulative grade point average of 3.4866, 3.4866, with every team posting cumulative and semester GPAs above a 3.0, it marks the 30th consecutive semester that they've earned above a cumulative 3.0 GPA. In fact, 84 percent of Spartan student athletes, nearly 500 of them, ended the fall semester with a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher. And special congratulations to the 106 student athletes earning a perfect 4.0 GPA for the fall semester. So, all bright points I've just mentioned depend on an environment that allows our entire university community to feel safe, respected, welcomed, and supported. Otherwise, none of us can do our best work or achieve our highest success. To heighten awareness and offer transparency about our culture of safety and care, last week we shared results from our 2025 Know More Campus Survey. I urge you to read the report, but overall, the findings show meaningful progress, including increased awareness of supportive resources and declines in certain forms of harm, while also underscoring areas where continued focus is needed. To close, everything I've mentioned here reflects a dynamic university on an upward trajectory. One firmly grounded in its values and legacy, inspired by its vision and aligned around its priorities as we prepare and meet the demands of our next 171 years, a milestone that we'll pass next week on the anniversary of our founding, February 12 Thank you. Now let's move on to the next agenda item, and we're going to invite, I'm going to invite Board Secretary Fletcher to ... we have nothing that's germane to the agenda I don't believe. There are no public participation items. So, we'll now go to the consent agenda. Secretary Fletcher

#### 4. Consent Agenda

Secretary Fletcher provided the following remarks.

Thank you, President Guskiewicz. Consent agenda is used to group routine items for consideration in one motion, increasing meeting efficiency and allowing more

time, pardon me, for items that may require further discussion or attention. The following items are included on this meeting's consent agenda.

A. Approval of the December 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes of the Board of Trustees

B. Gift, Grant, Contract Report for the period of November 20, 2025, through January 9, 2026. The report is a compilation of 230 Gifts, Grants and Contracts plus 16 Consignments Non-Cash Gifts, with a total value of \$72,301,837.

C. Personnel Actions and information reports, appointments and other personnel actions, listed in Attachment A and publicly posted on the board's website

Budget and Finance Committee

D. Authorization to Proceed- Wilson Hall Renovations for Technology Engineering and Life Safety Improvements

Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee

E. Appointment of University's External Auditors for 2025-2026

F. 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 Trustee Scott, supported by Trustee Tebay, the **BOARD VOTED to approve** the proposed consent agenda

**THE BOARD VOTED to approve** the recommendations.

Trustee Vassar was absent.

## 7. Research Presentation

Vice President Gage introduced Dr. Darryl Seligman, Assistant Professor, Physics and Astronomy, who gave a presentation on Interlopers and Dark Comets (Appendix A).

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

With that, we're going to invite Vice President for Research and Innovation, Doug Gage, to the podium to present today's research and speakers. And with that, I'm going to take one more opportunity to say thank you. This is, I think, now officially

your last meeting in this role, and we honored you at the last meeting, but I think you deserve another round of applause for all that you've done for us.

Vice President Gage provided the following remarks.

So as my career as Vice President winds down, I think that is an opportunity for me to really give my impression of what really makes this place great, and it is, in fact, our faculty, our students, and our staff. That's what drives the excellence at MSU. And so, I've had the honor of presenting individuals from all across the institution. You know, hiring the best people we can, recruiting the best students we can, hiring the best staff we can. That's our future. And so today it is my pleasure to introduce an individual who I think represents that. This is Dr Darryl Seligman. He's a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Michigan State. He completed his undergraduate degree in mathematics and physics at the University of Pennsylvania, earned his Ph.D. in astronomy from Yale University, where he received the Dirk Brouwer Memorial Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis. Following his Ph.D., he held the T.C. Chamberlin Fellowship in the Department of Geophysical Sciences at the University of Chicago. From 2023 to 2025 Dr. Seligman was a Simone NSF scholar at Cornell University and MSU. This is a postdoctoral fellowship awarded in recognition of significant contributions to the Vera C. Rubin Observatory Legacy Survey of Space and Time. He's now a member of the faculty as of this fall or past fall. His work has really drawn national and international attention already for his for his study of interstellar objects, including the 3I/ATLAS, only the third known object ever observed passing through our solar system from outside of the solar system. His insights into this ancient interloper has been widely covered in the news media and have helped illuminate how material formed around other stars can offer clues about the origins of planetary system. And actually, that object was discovered, I think, just a week or so into his beginning tenure. I think he had to go give a NASA press conference shortly thereafter. So, he's, he's already hitting the ground running. So, his research spans minor bodies in the solar system, exoplanets, plasma physics, nonlinear dynamics, fluid dynamics and neuroscience. Today, he will share his work on interlopers and dark comets and what these remarkable objects can teach us about the broader universe. Please join me in welcoming Dr Darryl Seligman.

Trustee Tebay provided the following comments after the presentation.

How big are these things? Like, how big is Oumuamua? Were you guys able to figure that out?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

Yes, that is an excellent question. So, the trick is that you can roughly figure it out if you assume something about how reflective the surface is. But we do know that it's got to be between not reflective and 100% reflective. So, and we know how

asteroid, there are asteroids and comets that we have other measurements of that reflectivity, so that we can kind of calibrate things very well. So, Oumuamua was very mysterious. It was about 100 meters in size, but it also had a very strange shape, which we inferred from its brightness variations. It actually has a six to six to one pancake-like shape. That is another one of these very mysterious things about Oumuamua. I have some theories explaining that shape, but we don't really know for sure. The dark comets tend to be all the way down to 10 meters to hundreds of meters to even maybe 10 kilometers. But the smallest ones, those 10-meter bodies, there's actually one dark comet that, because these 10-meter bodies are of interest for lots of planet formation reasons, JAXA, the Japanese Space Agency, is already visiting one of our dark comets in 2031, so we will have space-based measurements of a dark comet.

Trustee Tebay provided the following comments.

There's like, a world in which people could be up there and, like, touch?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

Yes.

Trustee Tebay provided the following comments.

That's so cool.

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

I'm glad you think that. I also think that's really cool but that was the message. And 31/ATLAS, we just got a measurement with HST that showed it's about a kilometer. So, it is actually much larger than expected. So, that actually, the exciting, so why this is actually the key measurement we try to make is how large the nucleus of a comet is. You actually never see the nucleus, so it's really difficult. But now that we know that for a few steps of logical reasoning, you can infer that there's now, we know from that size measurement that there is one or more similar Oumuamua or 31/ATLAS objects moving inside of Earth's orbit at any given time. So, we will be finding many, many more of these now that we know.

Trustee Tebay provided the following comments.

One more promise. For the dark comets, do you guys know why there's not a tail? Like, have you figured that out? Like, what's the cause?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

No, that's a, I mean, that is the question. So that is, I mean, that's maybe why, I mean, if we answer it, then maybe we don't call it dark comet anymore. So, but

that is the question, and it was the same thing with Oumuamua. Why was there no tail? I believe what I think is going on is that we have this observational bias, which basically means a reason we haven't been detecting them before is that we have historically, comets have pervaded our history, right? So, we have always been very sensitive to finding comets because they have tails. So, I think what's going on is that there are all of these other objects in the solar system that are actually comets, but for whatever reason, they don't have tails. That's why we haven't really spotted them. There's lots of possibilities. One idea is maybe these are comets that are almost at the end of their lifetime, so they've basically lost a lot of material, gotten rid of all of that dust, because the tails are all dust. Maybe you got rid of all the dust on the surface, and now there's only gas coming off, which you actually wouldn't see. So, that's potentially why. We have theories about Oumuamua, which are somewhat different because that one came from the interstellar medium, but that is what we are basically trying to get JWST observations, and we have this JAXA space mission that's going to a dark comet. We're hoping that those will answer those questions, not just me putting out theories that take it or leave it basically.

Trustee Denno provided the following comments.

That was incredible. Thank you. I wish you were my high school science teacher. Thank you for making that easy for someone like me to understand. The whole reason I went into James Madison College is because I never had a great science teacher like you. I really appreciate this, it is really fascinating to me. This is probably a really stupid question, so I apologize. You are talking about these comets doing their hyperbolic, so what is, what is accelerating them? Why aren't they losing acceleration if they're not pulling off the gravitational field of other planets?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

Oh, oh, that is an excellent question. That is not a stupid question. But you say in science class that there's no stupid questions, but that was actually not stupid. So, the, um, basically the non-grav-, so for Oumuamua, Oumuamua and 31/ATLAS, are these on these hyperbolic trajectories. Oumuamua had a non-gravitational acceleration. What that means is that that was an, I should have clarified this. So, this is a very astute question, actually. So that means that the acceleration that was measured of Oumuamua non-gravitationally, that was in addition to all of the gravity it feels from all of the bodies in the solar system. That's why it's so hard to find these non-gravitational accelerations, because first you have to account for everything in the solar system. So, our collaborators that we do these, the reason it's so difficult to find the dark comets in the first place is that NASA and ESA basically have to track the orbits of every object we know of in the solar system to account for the gravity of everything. And that is actually the reason that that is mission critical, is either for tracking things that could potentially hit the Earth, and also, if we're going to send a space like we went, OSIRIS, OSIRIS-REx went to

Bennu. When we get a spacecraft to a small body, you need to know its location to centimeter precision. So that's why that's so important. The hyperbolic trajectory, basically, is accelerating from the sun. So, it comes in 31/ATLAS, for example, came in at something like 55 kilometers per second, but it accelerated a huge amount from the sun. With Oumuamua it actually went from 26 kilometers per second to 88 kilometers per second when it was that closest approach, that non-gravitational acceleration, was in addition to all the other acceleration, does that answer?

Trustee Balow provided the following comments.

I was going to kind of ask a similar question, like, it's amazing to me, it doesn't get captured by the sun's gravity because it's so tiny compared. I imagine it has something to do with the speed it's coming through and the angle it's coming through?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

That's exactly right. So, I will expand a little bit, but that is effect, you effectively got the right answer. You can think about the best way, yeah, the physically intuitive way to think about it is that these objects are moving really fast through the galaxy. The sun, is also moving through the galaxy, and so the sun actually kind of intercepts their orbits, and then they come and leave. The reason they don't get captured, they're actually, it's a very astute question, because a lot of people have been working on the possibility that some of them do get captured. But what you need for a capture of an interstellar object is a third body. Jupiter is king of the most massive thing, so Jupiter is actually capable of capturing some. But in general, the reason, the way you want to think about it is like, if you have, if you can imagine small particle that rolls down a hill and goes the other side, if you start the particle out of the hill, and then you let it come down, it'll fall all the way down. This is just changing potential energy into kinetic energy. You're moving fastest when you're at the lowest point, and then you come back out and you leave. So, if you start with enough energy to be unbound, you can never have, basically, something has to happen for you to lose energy, to stay, to be bound. That's kind of all that's going on.

Trustee Balow provided the following comments.

Real short. It amazes me that you see these things. You're staring off into infinity, right? It's a person or a computer, and you're finding 10 meters. What's 10 meters when you're looking at infinity, like, how do you, is it, is it literally someone noticing movement that's watching one day? Or is it a computer model picking up something that directs people to look there?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

Yeah, so well, I guess I really like the way you phrased it, of looking out at infinity. It's a cool thing about astronomy is that we are always pushing the limits of our like, sensitivity with our telescopes. So, we have telescopes that can look down to some brightness, and in some cases, things that are very, very bright at many, many light years away appear dim. But you can have something that's very close to Earth, and then if it's 10 meters, it appears roughly as dim. So really, what you're, what we're as humanity, we are basically increasing the, the how dim we can look. But that could be something like a near-Earth object that's 10 meters, or something that's hundreds of millions of light years away. For the near-Earth objects themselves, the reason that they are kind of difficult to find is you have to look at the entire sky every night, because they're one of the only things in the sky that changes. So, most things in our, most of our stuff in our universe, doesn't actually change on human time scales. Near-Earth objects and comets change on geophysical timescales, and one of the ways in which they change is that the Earth is moving, they're moving, and so they move very fast though the sky. Oumuamua actually came very close to the Earth. It was 40 times the distance to the moon, between the Earth and the Moon. So, we're looking for these things basically every night as they move through our telescopes. Most of that funding actually comes from DOE and because, or DOD, because of planetary defense reasons. It is up to this point; it is mostly human identified. They do have algorithms to then, once you see something moving, try to kind of link the orbit together. But we have to spot them. And there's people all over the world basically, even amateur astronomers, will spot these objects that move and then submit them, and then we try to link them up. And I am almost sure we have actually people in Physics and Astronomy working on this right now. One of my new graduate students, I'm pretty sure that we are, I mean, maybe I shouldn't say this publicly, but we are not that great at doing that linking, especially for interstellar objects. So, the things that move really fast is very difficult for us to identify, because you could imagine, we're reliant on these things moving quickly, moving across the sky over one, over a couple of nights. If it moves so fast, it could just be gone in the next night. So, I think that's why we basically missed objects in the past. But that means that there's hope for the future.

Trustee Bahar-Cook provided the following comments.

Just more of a comment. The science fiction fan in me is telling me you are wrong about Oumuamua, and that is an alien problem, and we just don't recognize whatever kind of life form that is.

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

Well, I have heard that comment many, many times, so I get emails about that, like once a day.

Trustee Scott provided the following comments.

So, I'm going to echo what Trustee Bahar-Cook said, my comment was going to be, thank you very much for dashing the hopes that I've had since I watched Twilight Zone as a little girl that there are spaceships and flying saucers coming to Earth with ETs in them. So yeah, thank you. This was fascinating, however. Or. Seligman provided the following comments.

Well, the, to be fair, Oumuamua did break all of our rules and acted totally mysteriously. So, there were scientists that were saying that maybe it's an alien spacecraft, because it's except, the reasoning for that is that you can explain the non-gravitational acceleration without a tail, if it's either got rockets or if it's just like a light sail. So I think there were, there have been ideas about for hundreds of years that if you have a, if you populate the galaxy with light sails, basically you could get really far, because if they're really, really thin, the solar radiation, the sun's photons, will basically just push it just like a sail here on Earth. But yeah, I mean, there is no actual evidence for that. It actually, the light sail doesn't even fit the light curve of Oumuamua. Remember, I said it had that pancake shape? That came from looking at how it actually changed its brightness very dramatically overnight. So that is, we can basically see how its brightness changes. You're basically just seeing if it's elongated, like if it's like my phone, it's basically like, sunlight hits, it reflects back, and if it's tumbling, once you get a projection like this, you'll get much less light. So that tells us we actually got the shape. So, it's a six-to-six-to-one, which is more dramatic than anything we've ever seen in the solar system. But it is, you would need, like, 1000-to-one to make the light sail work. So that's pretty much ruled out at this point. That's right. That's right. You, I mean, you could also say, well, let's take a light sail and let's give it some curvature, and then so, I mean, that's part of the issue. You can never disprove that. So maybe there is hope for both of your science fiction theories.

Trustee Tebay provided the following comments.

Is there a way for us to follow your work? Like, do you have, like, a website or something that we can?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

I stay off of Twitter, but Blue Sky, you can imagine why, right? But there's, yeah, there are a lot of people who, yeah, who are fascinated by idea that these interstar objects could be alien technology there that is out there in the news about 3I/ATLAS as well. But yeah, my website and my students' websites, stuff like that.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Thank you, Dr. Seligman. We love the passion you bring to this topic. I want to also acknowledge that you, you know, had students as part of your presentation, and you know, we're trying to engage students in research. And thank you as a faculty member that obviously believes that that's important, and you're engaging

them in your work. I have been wanting to get to the SOAR telescope. I know we are, I know this consortium, I've know about it for years, as UNC Chapel Hill is also a member of that consortium. But do you think we could take the Board on a field trip at some point? Is this one's in? It is in Argentina?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

Chile.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Chile.

Trustee Scott provided the following comments.

Do we have the budget for that, Board Secretary?

Dr. Seligman provided the following comments.

If you want to go, we can go. I will do a field trip. I will go on the field trip with you.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Well again, thank you for an incredible presentation. We learned a lot. And keep up the great work. Thank you.

## 8. Committee on Budget and Finance

Trustee Pierce presented the Trustee Budget and Finance Committee Report and the following recommendation and resolution noting that item 1 was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

### B. Authorization to Proceed-IM West Demolition

The Trustee Committee on Budget & Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to proceed with demolition of the IM West facility.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to proceed for the project titled "IM West Demolition" with a project budget of \$6,900,000.

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

**THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the recommendation.

Trustee Balow provided the following comments.

Just discussion. A couple things. This was something that we originally considered last year. It came to the board, and then we took it off to take some more time to study it. With the idea being that, you know, we wanted to make sure before we moved forward with demolishing the building that we looked at repurposing it and made sure we didn't need it as part of our rec program going forward. To be honest with you, I'm not there yet. I'm not going to support this today, but there's a lot of good work that went into it. I just wanted to see a little bit more. The new rec center is going to open up this summer, I think, and then the pool is going to open up in the first quarter of '27 so we're about a year away, plus maybe 15 months before we could actually tear it down. So, I wanted to just wait a little bit longer to make sure that, you know, once the new rec center opens up, we would not have any sort of overcrowding or anything like that, and we'd have a little bit of a safety valve. We're still talking like that'll be there, like we're going to watch and see what happens, but you know, my preference would be, then to see what happens and then move to take the building down. Ultimately, there's a lot of deferred maintenance, and I think the desire is to do that. But keep in mind that going forward with our sports, recreational sports, club sports, fitness, the new rec center, when it opens up, is going to be really going, and that is a partial solution to our overall rec sports on campus. We have a large campus that's 52,000 students. Our data shows that we do need some more square footage on top of the new rec center. So, we do have IM East, assuming IM West comes down, that will require in the future more investment, as well as outdoor playing fields and things like that. So, what I'm saying to you is just keep an eye on that. It's an important objective for this board. If IM West ultimately comes down in 15 months or whatever, there's going to be a future use for that site, which there's some innovative things, and I won't speak anymore on that, but, you know, I think that ultimately, one of our main goals is to make sure that our students' mental and physical wellness is at the top. And again, I say that, you know, aside from varsity sports, which are funded completely differently, the rest of the stuff comes from campus funding, and this is a part of that. So if you are a student and you have an interest in that and want to have a say, stay engaged through your student government, because the five or 10 year plan going out could well be to invest in IM East to make it bigger and more capable, perhaps with another pool, you know, because we know that taking down IM West does create some shortages. So we're gaining some but we're losing some, like we're losing one basketball court, and so all those things need to stay on the forefront. Again, my preference would be to leave this open for a while until we can be absolutely sure. But if the if the will of the board is to take it

down, then we need to focus on what the next step is. And I'd like to issue a challenge out there to any donor that wants to put their name on a building. You know, the new rec center could be that, you know, a large donation that could go to benefit student sports or the next one at M East. So again, I'm very excited about the new rec center. I think we've got to keep our eye on the ball and make sure, in the next five to 10 years, for a campus of our size, we take the next step to be best in class, because the rec center that we're building was a long time coming. It's probably 15 or 20 years ago it should have come compared to what some other schools have. So, we're kind of getting to where we need to be and then let's make sure we're best in class. So those are my comments, and that's the only reason I'm not supporting this measure today, because I think it's a little bit premature. Thank you.

Trustee Denno provided the following comments.

I just want to thank you, Trustee Balow, you've spent an incredible amount of time looking into this. You've asked some great questions, and it's been demonstrated you really care about our students' well-being, and I just want to commend you. I've learned so much from you because of all the time you put into this. So, I just wanted to thank you.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

And I'll second that, because you have spent a lot of time on this, and I've walked facilities with you as well, so I know how deeply you care about this, and we'll get this right. Other comments?

**THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the recommendation.

Trustee Balow voted no.

Trustee Vassar was absent.

Trustee Pierce provided the following report.

Okay. The committee also discussed the preliminary Housing and Dining rates that will come in April for approval, and we received an update on the combined heat and chiller plant project, which is quite enormous, and then we received the investment return results and the operating funds return results from our CFO, Lisa Frace, that concludes my report.

## 9. Committee on Academic Affairs

Trustee Bahar-Cook presented the Trustee Academic Affairs Committee Report and the following recommendations and resolutions.

A Naming Opportunity - Engineering and Digital Innovation Center

The Trustee Committee on Student Life and Culture recommends that the Board of Trustees approve naming the Engineering and Digital Innovation Center the Leinweber Center for Engineering and Digital Innovation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby approves the naming of the Engineering and Digital Innovation Center the Leinweber Center for Engineering and Digital Innovation.

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

**THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the recommendation.

Trustee Vassar was absent.

B Naming Opportunity - Engineering and Digital Innovation Center Atrium

The Trustee Committee on Student Life and Culture recommends that the Board of Trustees approve naming the atrium within the Engineering and Digital Innovation Center the Spalding Family Atrium.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby approves the naming of the atrium within the Engineering and Digital Innovation Center the Spalding Family Atrium.

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

**THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the recommendation.

Trustee Vassar was absent.

Trustee Bahar-Cook provided the following report.

The Committee received a presentation on the Henry Ford Health and MSU Partnership, which was very informative and will be shared with others. John, I heard you that the faculty would also like that update, so you'll get it. And this concludes my report.

10. Committee on Audit, Risk and Compliance

Chairperson Scott presented the Trustee Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee Report noting that items 1 and 2 were approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Chairperson Scott provided the following report.

Thank you, President Guskiewicz. Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee items one and two were moved for approval in the consent agenda. In addition to that, the committee received an update on the NCAA agreed upon procedures, WKAR audit, and single audit, a presentation on IT Security and hostile environment assessment that was also conducted. And this concludes my report. Thank you.

11. Committee on Student Life and Culture

Trustee Denno presented the Student Life and Culture Committee Report.

Trustee Denno provided the following report.

Yeah, saving the coolest committee for last. I appreciate it. So, the student life and culture committee discussed future student engagement opportunities and reviewed meeting topics for the year. The Committee received an overview of community engaged learning efforts that advance student success and civic engagement across campus. We heard from Renee Miller Zientek and two outstanding students with a passion for service and community engagement. In 2026, MSU was ranked number one in service learning among all public universities in the United States by U.S. News and World Report, this is the third year MSU holds the number one ranking. I also just want to personally thank VP Jim Hintz, for your collaborative work on this committee. I'm super excited to work with you on this and your passion for student success. And then I also just want to say that I'm also super excited that starting in our next Student Life and Culture Committee meeting, we're going to start live streaming them. So, if you are tired of doom scrolling, or you're an insomniac, please check out our meetings, our student life meetings. But seriously, I'm excited that we're going to start live streaming those meetings. And that concludes my report.

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Thank you, Trustee Denno. And before I turn it over to Chair Scott, I just want to acknowledge with these two namings that we had during Budget and Finance Committee for the new digital, our new, Digital Innovation Center, I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge VP Kim Tobin for all the effort that went into that with her team over many years of fundraising, as well as Interim Dean John Papapolymerou from our College of Engineering, who spent, you know, numerous hours getting in front of some of the donors and going to various places with me and to cultivate that relationship with these donors. So, I think a round of applause for John, Kim. Thank you.

12 Liaisons Report, Chairperson's Report, Trustees' Comments

Priyanka Kothari, COGS Representative, provided the following report.

Okay, good morning, everybody. I'm Priyanka Kothari, representing Council of Graduate Students as the president. I hope you're doing well. We're settling in nicely into the spring semester, and it's been amazing to see all our graduate and professional students back in full swing across campus. COGS is continuing to prioritize connections and community as before, we have an exciting lineup of social events: Coffee and connections, snow tubing event at the Hawk Island, a Valentine's Day ice skating event at the Munn Ice Arena, and I also hear that we're currently working on a rock climbing event at the new gym once it's open towards the end of the semester. So fun is always a big priority, and with these partnerships, we are aiming to keep our programming relevant and inclusive. I'm also very excited to invite everyone to the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Academic Conference, which is now taking place two weeks from now, Saturday, February 21, at the MSU Union. This year, we will feature research presentations from nearly 150 graduate and professional students here at MSU, across disciplines. Our team is ready to go. We are gearing up. We are incredibly proud of everything that we're going to put up at the present at the conference. So, thanks for all the support. And now I think it's the time for the most important part of it, which is to show up. So please show up. Your presence and support will truly make a difference. We have also brought back our Graduate Resource Series this semester, which is a five-part virtual workshop series designed to connect graduate and professional students with vital campus resources. Our webinar sessions offer informal discussions, Q&A opportunities and practical guidance aimed at supporting student success, and we're excited to continue expanding this initiative. You can find all the information on the COGS website. Besides our exciting programs, me and my team have entered the spring semester with a lot of reflections and discussions. We are deeply thinking about the future of COGS, our structures, our systems, and thinking about how to continue making COGS more relevant and responsive to the changing needs of our student population. This has led us to clarify our voting and election procedures, and we are also reexamining our executive board roles and responsibilities and the workings of our various committees. We have also been benchmarking how COGS operates against the other Big Ten graduate student governments. As part of this effort, we began a two-part bylaws update in January, which we hope to complete this month. This work is all about transparency, accountability and ensuring that we continue to support our graduate students effectively. I'd also like to take a moment to discuss something that all graduate students, and frankly, I think all students across campus are facing as a problem with respect to our public transportation system. You should only take a short walk or drive across the campus, and you'll always find many, many students waiting for the buses at any given point in time, and you know that our current system is severely flawed. The biggest problem is that the buses that we have running across campus and the ones that connect us to Lansing and East Lansing city are simply not enough. Many routes operate only

on 20 minute, 35 minute, or hourly cycles, which becomes especially challenging in the evenings, when most routes shift to hourly service and some stop running entirely after 8 or 10 pm many graduate students still work late in their labs, well beyond this time, and are left with no other option, other than walking long distance back home or paying for expensive cab shares, which become really taxing if you do it every day in winter conditions. Students also need clearer, more reliable information, updated apps that reflect real time frequency notifications when buses are out of services and a backup or contingency plans when routes are disrupted, waiting an hour in the evening should not be the default. Additionally reduced cost and more accessible transportation options are critical for students that travel between campuses and need to reach places like hospitals or research sites in Grand Rapids or Detroit or the Flint campus. So, I urge everybody here to talk about making public transportation on campus a vital priority more than anything else, now and ever, considering the fact that our university is always open, come rain or snow, we must find solutions to make sure that it is easier for students to get to campus. I also want to highlight that COGS will be holding its board elections in March. My team and I we're going to be completing a year. It's been amazing. It's been short, and we have had an incredible time serving our graduate students, and we're committing to a smooth and transparent transitions when the time comes. With that, thank you for all your time and your continued support of graduate and professional students at MSU. I look forward to a warmer spring semester.

Kathryn Harding, ASMSU Representative, provided the following report.

Good morning, Board of Trustees and Michigan State community members. My name is Kathryn Harding, and I'm the Associated Students of MSU and Student Body President. I firstly would like to acknowledge Black History Month and how we at MSU are celebrating this month with events happening across campus for the coming weeks. We honor generations of black faculty, students, alumni, staff and leadership that have made lasting impacts here at MSU, but I would like to place emphasis on the students. Black students have organized and advocated and spoken up for one another and for the betterment of our campus as a place that should be free of racism and discrimination and hate. But that is not yet the case. The Black students Alliance, formed in the basement of Dr. Robert L Green's home in 1967, was instrumental in getting the Multicultural Center to fruition and continues to be the voice for black students on campus almost 60 years later. On Wednesday, ASMSU proudly sponsored the women's basketball game, which fell on national girls and women in sports day. It was an amazing opportunity to highlight the amazing female athletes on our campus and the largest number of female leaders in ASMSU in recent history. Our sponsorship was incredibly successful, and I would like to thank our partners at MSU Athletics. And I also want to wish everybody a Happy belated National Girls and Women in Sports Day. Our Governmental Affairs Department is doing a civic engagement series to connect students with legislators at all levels and encourage democratic participation. On this coming Wednesday, February 11, we will be hosting our state segment from

6:30 to 7:30 in Wells Hall, room 8122, and our local segment will be taking place on Wednesday, February 25 from 6:30 to 7:30pm in Wells Hall 8122 as well. Last night, ASMSU convened its general assembly, and we passed 18 bills. A few of which are of interest to administration and the Michigan State community at large. Bills 6259 and 6260 advocate for a permanent substance free green space within the Mason Abbott courtyard. Mason Hall is home to the only floor dedicated to students in recovery, but there is no additional space to support these students. Studies have proven that on campus, green spaces that are well designed and thoughtfully planned significantly enhance mental health and anxiety reduction, which strengthens the sense of belonging when students in recovery have limited access to substance free spaces on campus outside of the floor that they live on. ASMSU officially advocates for the university to designate the central courtyard on the north side between Mason and Abbott halls as a permanent substance free recovery and reflection area with the greenery led design to provide a gathering space for those who are in recovery. We further ask the Board of Trustees to amend ordinance 21.03 that allows for the open carry of beverages on game days to create an exemption for that Mason Abbott courtyard that would ensure students in recovery will be protected on days that are high risk for substance use. I really appreciate the dialog had with the board yesterday on this initiative, and I look forward to working with you all to make this space reality on our campus. Bill 6268 and 6276 address current issues on campus and at peer institutions due to violent actions by the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. Bill 6268 is a resolution to stand in solidarity with our peers at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, who are struggling due to cancelled and virtual classes, fear of violence when they exit their residencies, and witnessing community members being killed or injured on the streets by ICE agents. We will be releasing a statement expressing our solidarity and support for the University of Minnesota in the wake of violence being inflicted upon residents by ICE, and I will also be taking part in a social media initiative with other student body presidents from across the country to call for ICE to stay out of our campus communities. Seeing this violence inflicted across our country and so close to one of our Big Ten peer schools has been incredibly jarring for our own community and has caused students to be fearful of ICE coming here. This fear has been made worse by xenophobic and hateful statements toward immigrants being painted on the rock in the past week, and this is what Bill 6276 addresses. These actions do not reflect our institutional mission of inclusion or belonging. ASMSU condemns these statements, and we do not condone any sort of hateful speech or rhetoric directed towards immigrants or undocumented people. We reaffirm our support for immigrant and minority students who have been harmed by these statements painted on the rock. We further call on MSU administration to release a statement condemning these comments and to affirm its support for students of all communities, regardless of national origin or immigration status. Next Friday is the third anniversary of February 13. There will be several events happening on campus that day to provide support spaces and opportunities for folks to heal in community, if that is what makes sense for you. I want to take a moment to say that I'm really proud of how our campus has come together year after year to support one another during times of reflection, grief and

healing. We have lived and breathed the fact that we are the strongest when we lean on each other as a community. I encourage everyone to take time to heal and reflect that is best for your healing journey next week. Before I conclude, I would like to thank Dr. Allyn Shaw and Dr. Genyne Royal for all of the years they've dedicated to our campus and leading with students at the center, I express my gratitude for them and for the work they did to support students during their time here at Michigan State. ASMSU will continue to be a student government that uplifts students and amplifies student voices. I thank you for the time, and this concludes my report.

Lauren Pelon, RHA Representative, provided the following report.

Hello. I hope everyone is doing well. My name is Lauren Pelon, and I am the current president of the Residence Halls Association, the on-campus student government. I hope everyone is having a wonderful Friday. RHA has been busy with recruitment, events, and preparation for future transitions. Our election nominations for President, Vice President and Chief Officer have officially begun. On top of that, we will be opening hiring for next sessions, open positions on Monday. Most of our current leadership team staff are graduating, so there will be a large learning curve in transition into our 57<sup>th</sup> session. We have been recruiting since the beginning of the semester in an effort to get our last few hall governments and caucuses up and running. Out of the five that were not active in the past semester, we have managed to fully activate one and are continuing to learn about the others as we go. We held a full day recruiting initiative in the Brody neighborhood last month, as well as attending Springticipation. Since then, we have had over 100 interest forms filled out. We had our Spring Summit on February 1, and had an amazing turnout of over 100 constituents and advisors. We fostered a great sense of community and were able to complete a lot of training and advising throughout the day. Lastly, before I would like to yield my time, I wanted to briefly thank Dr. Shaw and Dr. Royal for their time, service and commitment to their to the university during their tenure. On behalf of RHA, thank you for your efforts in collaboration with us in the past, and we wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Sarah Fireberg, At-Large Student Liaison, provided the following report.

Hello, everyone. As you can tell, my voice has gotten worse since yesterday, so I'll be trying my best. I am the At-Large Liaison to the board, so I represent the student body. Oh gosh, that didn't sound good. I'd like to begin by speaking about the importance of student engagement. Many students experience isolation or disconnection, and while that can be overwhelming, a strong and supportive community helps pull us out of that space. When students feel safe and acknowledged, they build friendships, collaborate, grow professionally and give back. MSU's community is one of our greatest strengths, but it only uplifts students that are engaged. For that reason, I believe the university must continue to prioritize student engagement. I began thinking about engagement through

conversations with the international student population. MSU is home to 4,200 international students from 139 countries. And while this diversity enriches our campus, these students face unique career challenges, including visa processes, CPT/OPT uncertainty, and employer hesitancy. Career Services offers strong resources, advising, workshops, career fairs and alumni panels and employer and employer engagement, but many students are unaware or not accessing these resources, and this reflects a broader issue. Programs exist, but engagement is inconsistent. So that's why I'm asking the board, and we've talked about this already, but I think we need to support a university wide priority on student engagement, with a particular attention to international students. Sorry, guys. Another engagement challenge affects our student organizations. MSU has over 1,000 RSOs, which is something I'm extremely proud of, especially since I've started my own club. However, booking event spaces is unnecessarily complicated and unpredictable. RSOs must navigate multiple systems, unclear pricing and fluctuating IPF costs, making it difficult to budget or apply for funding. Greater transparency, predictable pricing and a clearer community and clearer communication would significantly reduce stress for student leaders and allow RSOs to maximize their impact on campus. Next, I'd like to highlight a gap in support for commuting students. These students often drive long distances, arrive early for parking, walk long distances to class from the commuter lots, and spend full days on campus with limited access to basic resources like lockers, refrigerators, restrooms or clear information about online course options. What's concerning is that we don't collect data on who these students are or what they need, so we can't, even if we do have resources, but we just can't give it to them directly. So, it's a clear gap. It's clear that this gap is significant. So that's why I'm asking the university to conduct a comprehensive study on commuter students and develop an actionable plan to support them. I also support the proposed amendment regarding the creation of a permanent substance free outdoor space near recovery housing. This change would better support students in recovery, into line with the university, the university policy, with MSU stated commitment to student wellbeing. Lastly, I want to sincerely thank Dr. Shaw and Dr. Royal for their dedication and support to students. I've heard countless stories of their mentorship, presence, and care. Their impact will be lasting, and they will be deeply missed. And I wish Dr Shaw a wonderful retirement and Dr Royal continued success. Go Green! Thank you, guys.

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

Thank you, Chair Scott, and greetings to the board. I'm John Arnie Flesner, currently serving as Faculty Senate Chair, and I'd like to thank the Senate for their vote of confidence in putting me in this position. As it is February, and we've had a purely Michigan winter, I do want to briefly thank our dedicated colleagues from facilities who spend their days and nights ensuring that all of us can get to our classes, offices, research sites, and everything else that happens here on campus, despite the snow. They were, of course, out this morning as well, and probably still are. Your efforts do not go unnoticed by the faculty. The faculty also note the

release of the Know More Campus Survey. While we applaud the improvements that have been made in recent years in the climate on campus regarding sexual assault, we also see that there's still work to be done, especially around marginalized identity categories. The Faculty Senate and the faculty at-large, thus affirm our commitment to a workplace and an educational environment free from harassment of all kinds, and we call on the administration and board to continue to constructively partner with us and others in these efforts to ensure a safer campus for all. Also, this winter, it is with heavy hearts and great trepidation that we've watched the national news coming out of our fellow Big Ten institutional homes of Chicago and Minneapolis, the violence and lack of due process for all people, especially those exercising constitutional rights, is concerning. While the Lansing area has thankfully not yet seen a similar enforcement action. There is rightfully a lot of concern on campus around immigration and enforcement actions. Many of our Spartan faculty, staff, and students hail from other countries because we run a proud academic institution with a history of hiring and educating the best of the best, regardless of country of origin. Many Spartans live and work on and around campus with a variety of visas. Thus, the faculty have asked the board and the administration to ensure that all employment records, visa paperwork, and other digital records be kept safe to the greatest extent possible from any potential enforcement actions that may come to the area. The faculty strongly affirm the strength of our diverse community that values all members. We will continue to stand with our colleagues and friends throughout this nerve-wracking period. Spartans will support each other. At the moment, many faculty are keeping an eye on the multiple intersecting conversations taking place on campus about the future of undergraduate and graduate education, MSU must always be, first and foremost, a cutting-edge educational institution. Faculty take great pride in being good teachers and mentors, as we saw today with our research presentation. The land grant mission we espouse here at MSU requires that we educate our students from Michigan, from the rest of the country, and from the entire world in a manner that combines the best of our field specific knowledge with the well-rounded grounding that a liberal arts education has always and should always demand. At the moment, MSU faculty are hard at work revamping our general education curriculum and also ensuring that our undergraduate learning goals are in alignment with the needs and challenges of the 20<sup>th</sup> century world. Both of these are hefty undertakings on their own and great philosophical challenges that the best of the faculty relish. But these changes are not taking place in a vacuum. Simultaneous to these processes, discussions are also underway about changes in the university's budget model. This is bringing great uncertainty for many on campus as they try to understand what this may mean for their own careers at the institution to which they have dedicated their careers. This is in part why you see so much faculty interest in being part of these processes. Faculty concerns are all grounded in the firm belief that MSU is at its best when it is educating students broadly to respond to the timeless questions raised by a liberal arts education. These timeless questions have always been blended here on campus with a focus also on the challenges of today and tomorrow. John Hannah, who himself never actually had a Ph.D. and instead excelled in agricultural extension around poultry

farming, created the basic College in 1944 and then separated the College of Science and Art into the three core liberal arts colleges today's College of Natural Science, College of Social Science, and College of Arts and Letters in 1962. This set MSU on the path to being a national and global leader in combining a broad liberal arts education with field specific training. In short, the modern research institution for a mass audience. This was education for citizenship. We need to reinvigorate this charge in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. University education must remain more than simply acquiring the field specific knowledge that trains students for the jobs of today. It needs to continue to inspire to ask students to question their own place in the world and the role of the individual in society. To some critics of higher education, we have strayed too far from our mission, far from it. We need to reaffirm that education is a holistic process, and the MSU faculty has ever been and continues to be focused on the timeless values and skills that a broad-based education brings to our students and society at large. The faculty forcefully stand ready to ensure that Spartans trained in a broad based liberal arts education will be prepared to read, to educate themselves, to think, to act and to do this is just as their peers did in the 1870s, the 1930s, the 1980s, and last year, the faculty remain committed to ensuring that today and tomorrow's Spartans are ready to tackle the challenges we face in the mid-2020s we affirm that the core liberal arts still partner well, even in an AI driven world with deep field specific knowledge. And we look forward to tackling the challenges that the mid 2020s bring here in the state of Michigan, this country, and beyond. Thus, the faculty look forward to a constructive partnership with the board, the administration, and the student body of today and tomorrow as we continue to grow and build this institution as a public good. Thank you.

Trustee Denno provided the following remarks.

Thank you. Excuse me, sorry. So, want to start off with, to so everyone, to everyone in law enforcement, to those of you who are doing your jobs the right way, who are doing your jobs humanely, who are doing your jobs because you care about community, I just want to thank you for all you're doing. My second comment is, obviously, this month is Black History Month, and so my first three years on this board have been pretty difficult, and there's been two communities that have stuck by me, first my own Arab American community, and honestly, the other community that has stuck by me and supported me has been the African American community, and even through a history in this country of pain and violence and discrimination, the African American community has always worked to uplift and to fight for their community, and yet, you've also been there for me, which is pretty awesome. For the African American community at MSU, I know that you have struggled to be heard, I know you've struggled to be recognized, through your history at MSU. I've heard your fears and your frustrations, and I just find it incredible, and I'm incredibly grateful that you still have the capacity to support me, and I hope that I can give back to you as much as much as you've given to me. Thank you.

Trustee Bahar-Cook provided the following remarks.

Thank you. A couple things to say. I also wanted to talk just real briefly about the opening of the MSU Museum. It was an honor to speak at that reopening to that wonderful, iconic, historic museum, that has not just served this campus well but has served the greater community well. Its museum's collections are in integral part of research, teaching, and learning. And so much went into the renovation that's the museum's first, in more than 75 years, and that is knowing that the building is one of the oldest on campus, having been built in 1857. They have introduced an immersive lab and exhibition lab supported by a generous gift from the Forest Akers Trust. It will transform student engagement with the museum, offering dedicated spaces where MSU students of all majors can actively participate in co-creating exhibitions and designing innovative visitor experience. The reopening also strengthens the museum's role as a teaching and research hub, providing new opportunities for experimental learning, collaboration, and showcasing student and faculty innovation. I encourage all of you to visit the newly renovated space. You know where it is right on campus. They have even created study spaces for students. So, if you don't feel like going to The Union, but you want to check out a really new place on campus, I would encourage you to go up to the second floor and check out some of that stuff. And it was really kind of cool to be at the reopening too. I got to meet world renowned electronic music artist, Detroit DJ, Carl Craig. Those of you who are, you know, went to high school in the 80s will probably be more excited about that than others. But it's exciting too, because he's been named an MSUFCU Arts Power Up Artist in Residence January through April, and he's doing a collaboration with FRIB. So, I'm super excited to watch the electronic music and FRIB collide into whatever that's going to be next. So that's kind of cool. I also want to briefly mention, I went to the Broad Museum's art, winter opening as well. Their artists in residence did a really unique collaboration with our students for a piece called Synthetic Sirens. And they really are drawing from the Odyssey when they talk about all that, all that synthetic noise, and how it makes us not see and hear and be able to relate to what's exactly in front of us. So, we'd encourage you to go and see that exhibit as well. Wanted to mention that four MSU students took first place in the 2025 World Evaluation Case Competition last fall. The stakes were high. They were among 17 teams from 14 countries on five different continents. Their team name was very fitting, Evaluators Will. They were tasked with identifying a local issue resulting from climate change and presenting a plan for mitigating that. They are expected to design the program and an evaluation of it, including a full report in under 7 hours. Evaluators Will chose data centers and the impact these facilities on water resources and energy consumption as their local issue. These competitions offer unique opportunity for students to gain hands on experience in program evaluation, which is the systematic process of assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of a program, project or policy. Please join me, in giving a round of applause to those students. MSU also celebrates 60 years of plant science excellence. A well-deserved congratulations to the MSU Department of Energy Plant Research Laboratory on their 60 years of research innovation and community in plant sciences. The

laboratory, established in 1965... which Denno, is older than us, something finally... on campus, is a global leader addressing challenges from food security to energy capture, and has consistently driven breakthroughs in understanding how plants function to the benefit of Michiganders and people around the world. There were around 100 past and present researchers at the celebration in December, which only reaffirms MSU's global standing in plant science. The laboratory, in conjunction with the university and partnership and funding from the Department of Energy, has been instrumental in allowing our researchers to continue their mission to understand how photosynthetic organisms function and thrive in natural environments. Those detailed discoveries continue to enable the development of new technologies that improve human lives. I also got to attend two really cool events at Cowles House. Two outstanding achievements in sports receptions, one for our NCAA athletes and one for our club athletes. Both of, both sets of athletes have been winning championships, and I'm just really proud of the way that those students have been able to find community in those sporting events. And it was just such a joy to watch them light up and talk about what it means to be an athlete on campus, so, I just wanted to mention that as well. There was an Executive Manager's Reception that I went to at Cowles House, which is the third one. I always enjoy meeting people who've been on campus for 10, 20, 30, 40 years, and how they're able to sort of share with me gems about the university that I don't get to hear about otherwise. So, if you do see me on campus, and if you're really proud of something, let me know, and maybe I'll share it here at the mic. And then I finally, I wanted to give my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to our former Faculty Senate Chair, Angela Wilson, on her recent appointment as Vice President for Research at Texas A&M University. While it is bittersweet for us, this is a tremendous honor for her, and a testament to her outstanding leadership, we could not be prouder to see you advance in this next chapter. I deeply appreciate Angela's frankness and her commitment to faculty success, collaboration and support for Spartan research and academic excellence. Her work has helped elevate faculty voices and support initiatives that enhance our academic mission, leaving a lasting and positive impact on our campus. And I just have to say, when I first became a trustee, I did not understand the joint governance structure, and I really appreciate everything all of our Faculty Senate does to bring issues to the Board so that we can kind of hear both sides of the story sometimes, and so, Angela, thank you for that. John, I'm looking forward to working with you. Congratulations. And that wraps up my very lengthy comments. Thank you.

Trustee Balow provided the following remarks.

Thank you, Stefan. Couple of good news stories too. And hey, Rebecca, even though they were long, they were good. Its value added. You take all the time you need. President Guskiewicz mentioned the Detroit Auto Show. I want to give a shout out to a couple of our student researchers, Tom Gilbert and Nathan Marhefka, who are down there with, we have a Baja Racing team and a Formula SAE team that were, I guess, building concept vehicles and participating in competitions and, you know, innovating and being part of our state's core industry,

which is still the bread and butter for a lot of us, and needs a lot of good, young minds. So, I'd like to say good job to you two. I'd like to give a shout out to Mitchell Sheldon, who's been named the Big Ten Men's Tennis Player to Watch. And if you know anything about me, you know I, you know, no one's a bigger basketball or football fan here than I am, trust me. But like, I like to give a shout out to some of our sports athletes who aren't always on television. So, there's one of them, Mitchell Sheldon. And I'd like to recognize retiring MSU Field Hockey Coach Helen Knull, 15 seasons got in the field hockey program, making her the longest tenured coach. Her and her career included more than 100 victories, a Big Ten tournament championship in 2013, and West Region Coach of the Year honors in 2013. Most importantly, spartan student athletes under her collected three All-American honors, 15 All-Region picks, and 22 All-Big Ten, as well as seven First Team Honorees. And even more importantly, in the classroom, 216 Academic All-Big Ten picks and on and on and on. We are grateful for her contributions to Spartan athletics. And on the subject of coaches, I want to give a shout out to an old friend down in Texas, Matt Gianiodis, who headed out swim team here for 19 years. Dr. Guskiewicz was good enough today to mention our overall team GPA, 3.466, or something like that. When we had the Swim and Dive team in their last year, the women were number one in the country team GPA, and the men were number five. Top, top, top, as well as being pretty fast in the pool. So, I attribute a lot of that to his leadership. He developed fine young men and women that were great Spartans and became very dedicated alumni and great citizens for 19 years. And I want to recognize him for that. You know, Gianiodis, nice Greek name, known as Coach G, or simply G, to those that knew him well, he was a friend of many here on campus. He's a Spartan at heart, and you know, I'm thinking about you, G, you're down there. Best of luck at Texas Tech and hope to have you back here soon. I would like to say, I was excited this morning. I didn't anticipate mentioning this, but I stayed at the Kellogg Center, and I got up and there was so much people in the lower level, people in the lower level of the Kellogg Center. And I'm like, what's this? What's this? And it's the alumni Distinguished Scholarship competition. I think we're in our second weekend. I was talking to Terrance Brown over there. Thirteen hundred aspiring Spartans taking this test, which I'm sure is quite challenging, and 60 scholarships will be awarded, as well as a lot of other scholarships, and seeing the energy start to build in that building for people that are trying to come here and do great things, often reminds me of the reason why. You know, it's one of those things. I would like to say, where's Dan Bollman? You're over here somewhere? Is this your last meeting? Stand up for a minute. For those of you who don't know Dan Bollman, I just want to recognize his contributions, for, what is it, like 70 years of service to the school here or something like that? No, no, no. In all seriousness, Dan's one of the guys I got to know before a trustee, as a trustee, very professional, and if you see something built here on campus, it's probably got his fingerprints on it. So, I wanted, I'm sure there'll be a formal recognition for Dan, but because of the relationship we've had and how I've admired your hard work, I wanted to say that to you here in front of everyone. Please give him a round of applause. And now I'm going to guess 30 years? Okay, 35. I'd like to say that I appreciate Trustee Denno inviting me last night to sit down

with some of our Arab American professors and talk about stuff. And you know, in December, those of you that remember what I said, it was kind of along the lines of, there's a lot of people here who are going through some stuff, either themselves or their families, and that, you know, everyone is carrying a burden. We just don't know what it is, and some of them are more visible than others. And as we go into 2026 here, I wanted to start out the year by saying, please remember to give your fellow students and faculty member whatever empathy you can. Understanding that there's a lot of stuff going on, and we're trying to do our best for this campus to figure things out, and that's a struggle that's always going to go on, but I appreciated the dialog that we had last night. It won't be the last time. Hopefully we can build a friendship, and I thank you, Trustee Denno for inviting me. I'm going to close also with a note of recognition. I appreciate in terms of understanding, empathy and how people relate to students, Dr. Shaw and Dr. Royal, for what you did for the students for all those years. Thank you for that. Thank you very much. And the last thing I'm going to say is, you know, back in my navy days, you probably can't see it in my lapel, but there's a flag and that's for my college, US Naval Academy. And when things got bad, and they often did, it's easy to complain, but oftentimes, when someone complained, one of their friends would say, what the hell are you complaining about? Someone's got it worse and do your job. And you know, that's harsh, but that really resets you and really makes you think that we had another saying called "lean into the hardship." We used, not hardship, it was something more profane, which I'm not going to repeat here, but the idea you get. And when you lean into the things, like I see many people doing here, whether they're advocating for their thing or they're trying to get a point across, you know, it's noticed. And you know, I don't like to say I see you, I hear you, those are things that are said often. I respect you, and I want to get to know you better, like so if there's something that's on your mind, you can always look me up. And I want to say to those students that find that hard, yes, it's hard, but when you're leaning into what's hard, remember, as long as you don't compromise your principles, and you're acting not out of greed or self-promotion, you're going to get to the right place. It feels lonely sometimes. That's right, but if you keep after it, you're going to end up in the right place. And that's just what I want to close with. And I wish you all a great start to '26 and we'll see you around. Thank you.

Trustee Tebay provided the following remarks.

I first want to remind everyone, no matter what team you're rooting for this weekend in the Super Bowl, we have two Spartans that are going to be competing against one another. Former teammates, Bryce Barringer and Kenneth Walker III, so we win either way so. And I had the distinct pleasure of doing the formal recognition of Dan Bollman. And so, Dan, I just want to say, from a personal note, it's been a pleasure to work with you over the last seven years, and I'm very, very sad that you are leaving us, but I also think you deserve retirement. So, let me read this statement of appreciation. (Appendix B)

President Guskiewicz provided the following comments.

Yeah, Dan, would you like to say something? There's a mic right there.

Dan Bollman provided the following remarks.

Those who know me know that Michigan State's been part of my life long before I started working here, I can remember climbing Spartan Stadium when I was about this tall with equal parts fear and excitement, and it'll be part of my life long after that. The one thing you didn't mention that sticks out for me the most is, I looked up the other day, over 350,000 students have received degrees since I started working here, and I'm just incredibly proud to be part of an institution that makes such a huge impact on the world. So, I'm honored. Thank you.

Chairperson Scott provided the following remarks.

Thank you. All right. Well, Happy Black History Month to everyone. I am going to repeat something that I say each year this time of year, and that is that while we celebrate the accomplishments and the contributions of Black Americans, I want people to remember that Black History is American History. Everything that this country is today was on the backs of many Black people. And I think we could think about even the buildings, the infrastructure, some of the greatest inventions in our country have come from Black Americans. So, I encourage you all to celebrate this month, and I'm going to talk a little bit more about ways you can do that, even on campus later in my comments today. I do want to start by talking about one of the items that Rebecca failed to mention that she attended this month, and I was kind of thinking to myself, instead of Where's Waldo, perhaps we could do a Where's Rebecca Bahar-Cook on campus, because she's always here. But we both had the pleasure of attending the Martin Luther King Jr. commemorative celebration, and it was phenomenal. I don't know how many of you that are here in this room have attended one of those celebrations. If you've not been able to make it, I would encourage you to do so. This particular one was held on January 15, and as part of it, it was the 46<sup>th</sup> annual celebration, which is something that's monumental in and of itself. The dinner included a powerful speech, and we had performances by students and staff, the excellent keynote address that was provided to us by Terry Flennaugh, the Associate Dean of Access and Community Engagement in the College of Education. I want to thank the Vice President and Chief Inclusion Officer, Dr., I'm sorry, Dr. Jabbar Bennett, and hopefully I got his new title correct. The MLK Planning Committee and our co-host, Dreux Baker, who is the Assistant Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Resident Education and Housing Service, and Cassidy Do, who is the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the Residence Halls Association and Florensio Hernandez, who is the Outreach and Engagement Manager for Inclusive Excellence and Impact, they all did a really fine job with this celebration, and I just want to commend them for leading us through this 46<sup>th</sup> commemoration. And I look forward to again having the opportunity, hopefully in future years, to attend. We also had, as has been mentioned, the opportunity to view the reopening of the museum. And while I was not actually able

to be there, and I do thank Trustee Bahar-Cook for providing the comments on behalf of the board, we did have an opportunity to be there yesterday during our board work session and this is a newly renovated space that I would encourage all of you who are able to attend, and one of the reasons is this very fabulous exhibit that we had an opportunity to see yesterday, and that was, and I'm hoping that I am pronouncing the name of this collective correctly, forgive me if I'm not, but it was the Mz.Icar collective with lie Omi, which was the House of Water exhibit. I first thought I was just going to go in there and lounge and lay down on these nice little bean bags with Emily Guerrant, but it was actually so encompassing to walk into this and really just give you a little bit of an idea. It was a futuristic view of an underwater society that was descended from African souls lost during the transatlantic voyages, and they used projection screening, traditional film methods, animation, and some AI in order to draw on those experiences. And it really allowed us to see what that African diasporic experience, the West African cultural traditions were. It was just a really great exhibit. And what else would you want to see this time when we're thinking about Black history, you can walk right across the street after today's meeting and immerse yourself in that and learn more about those experiences that many had. So, I encourage you all to visit the museum. I want to thank the staff for hosting us. We had a wonderful meeting yesterday, and it's just a beautiful space. The Art Installation in the Board Room, as you can see around the room, the Board Room recently received some inspiring new additions to our space. These works of art are not just beautiful, but they are also Spartan created. All eight of the pieces were created by brilliant members of our faculty. The faculty members include, and we've talked about her plenty of times, Teresa Dunn, who is a professor of art in art history and design, Adan Brown, a professor of art in art history and design, Rebecca Gonzalez Cifaldi, an assistant professor of art in art history and design, Barbara Pearsall, assistant professor of art in art history and design, Kelly Salchow-MacArthur, who is also a professor of art in art history and design, and Gustavo Uriel Ayala, who is assistant professor of art, art history and design. These works remind us of the incredible talent to lead and to guide out students every day across this campus. So, I just want to give a round of applause. I hope you guys go around and take a really deep look at the details of these beautiful photos as you leave out today. And finally, I know next week will be a difficult one for many of us across the campus, and as we prepare to recognize the third anniversary of the February 13, 2023 incident, I just want to thank Dave Brewer, Natalie Moser from our Office of Resource and Support Coordination, who have been instrumental with their thoughtfulness and intention and compassion in helping to ensure that this community, our community, can continue to heal in ways that are most fitting for us. It's important to remember that everyone's healing journey is different, so check each other and make sure that we're doing okay. People have different experiences that cause them to grieve and deal with these emotions in different ways. So, we need to be kind to one another and reach out if need be. I also want to encourage our campus community to take advantage of the resources available, including CAPS and the Employee Assistance Program, to learn more about what will be happening on campus next

Friday. Please visit [spartanstogether.msu.edu](http://spartanstogether.msu.edu). And that concludes my comments. Thank you.


13. Public Participation on Items Not Germane to the Agenda

1. Bill Whitbeck - Adopt resolution in support of Police Week Michigan
2. J. Robert Serrine (via Zoom) - MSU Extension compensation and union negotiations
3. Stathis Pauls - In support of Extension United Union and finalizing contract
4. Carrie Grishaber - Cost-of-living adjustments
5. Jeremy Jubenville (via Zoom) - Cost-of-living adjustments
6. Tyler Augst - Cost-of-living adjustments
7. Tiffany Stevens (via Zoom) - UNTF Local 1855 raises
8. Eric Walcott - MSU Extension contract negotiations
9. Derek Plotkowski, Ph.D. - Fair wages for extension employees
10. Mary Reilly (via Zoom) - Support of Extension United negotiations
11. Nina Blum - Advocating for the necessity of offering ASL classes during the school year at MSU
12. Cheyanne Schlinke - The value of my personal experiences with MSU extensions
13. Dr. Scott D. Farver - ICE and CBP presence on campus
14. Gregory Rouland - ICE and CPB presence on campus
15. Erin Lizotte (via Zoom) - MSU Extension
16. Kyle Flanagan - Student safety and support for non-citizen students

14. Request to Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Tebay, supported by Scott **THE BOARD VOTED to adjourn** at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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



Darryl Z. Seligman

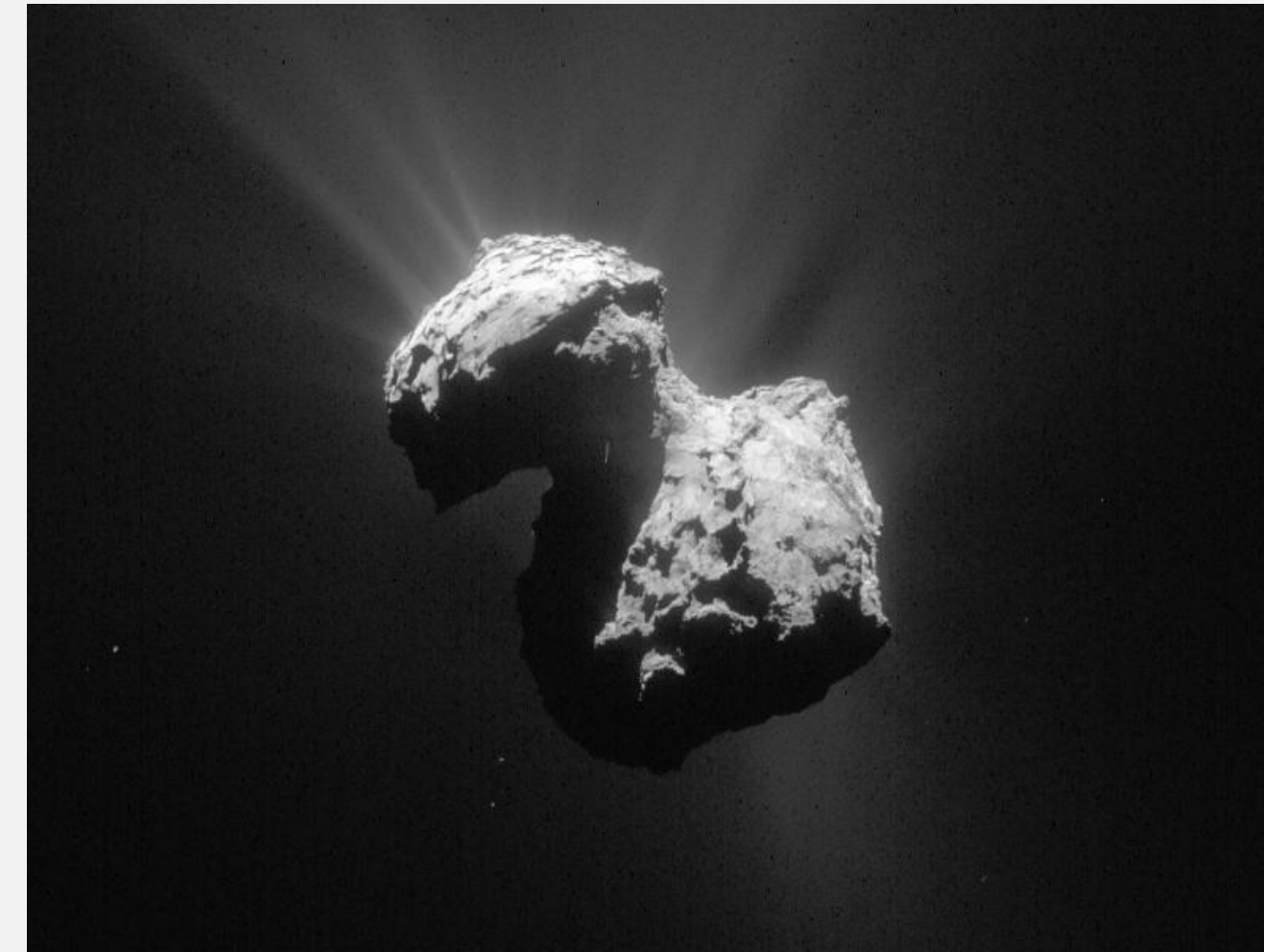
Assistant Professor,  
Michigan State University,  
Department of Physics and Astronomy.



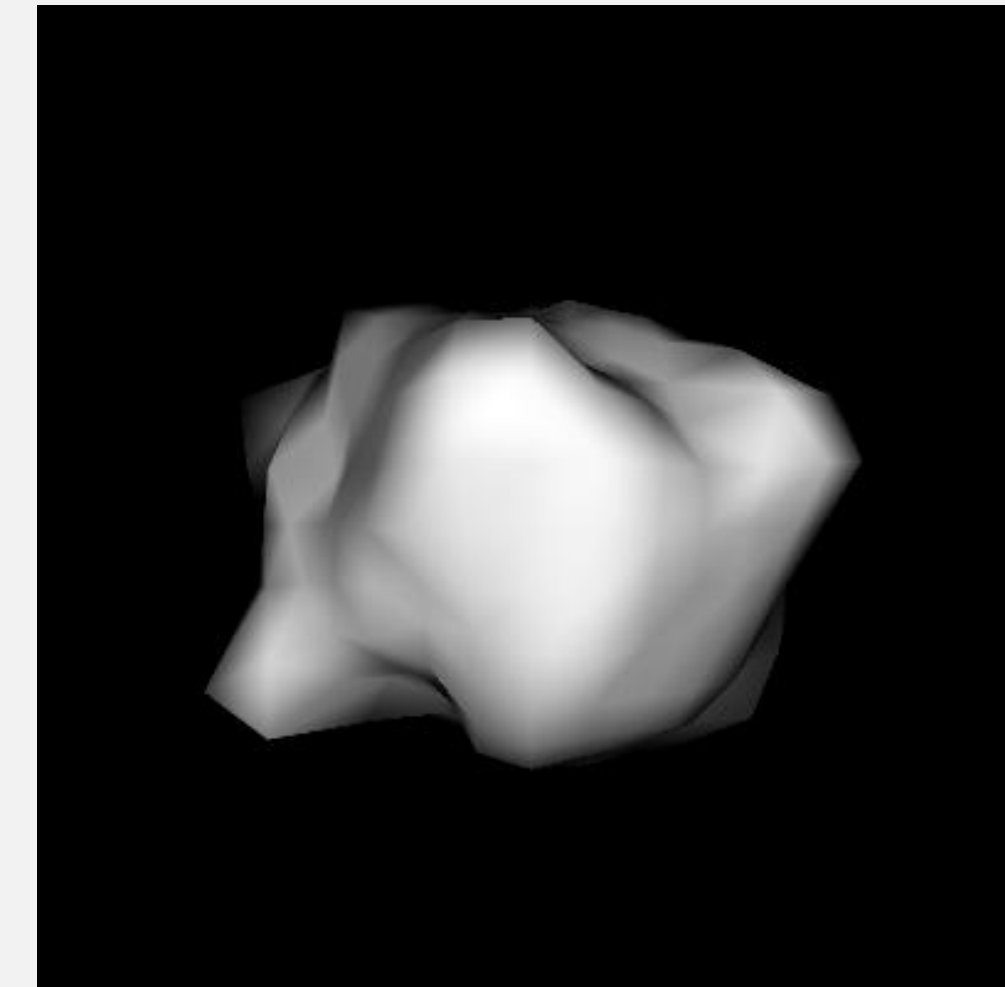
Appendix A

# Interstellar Interlopers and Dark Comets

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

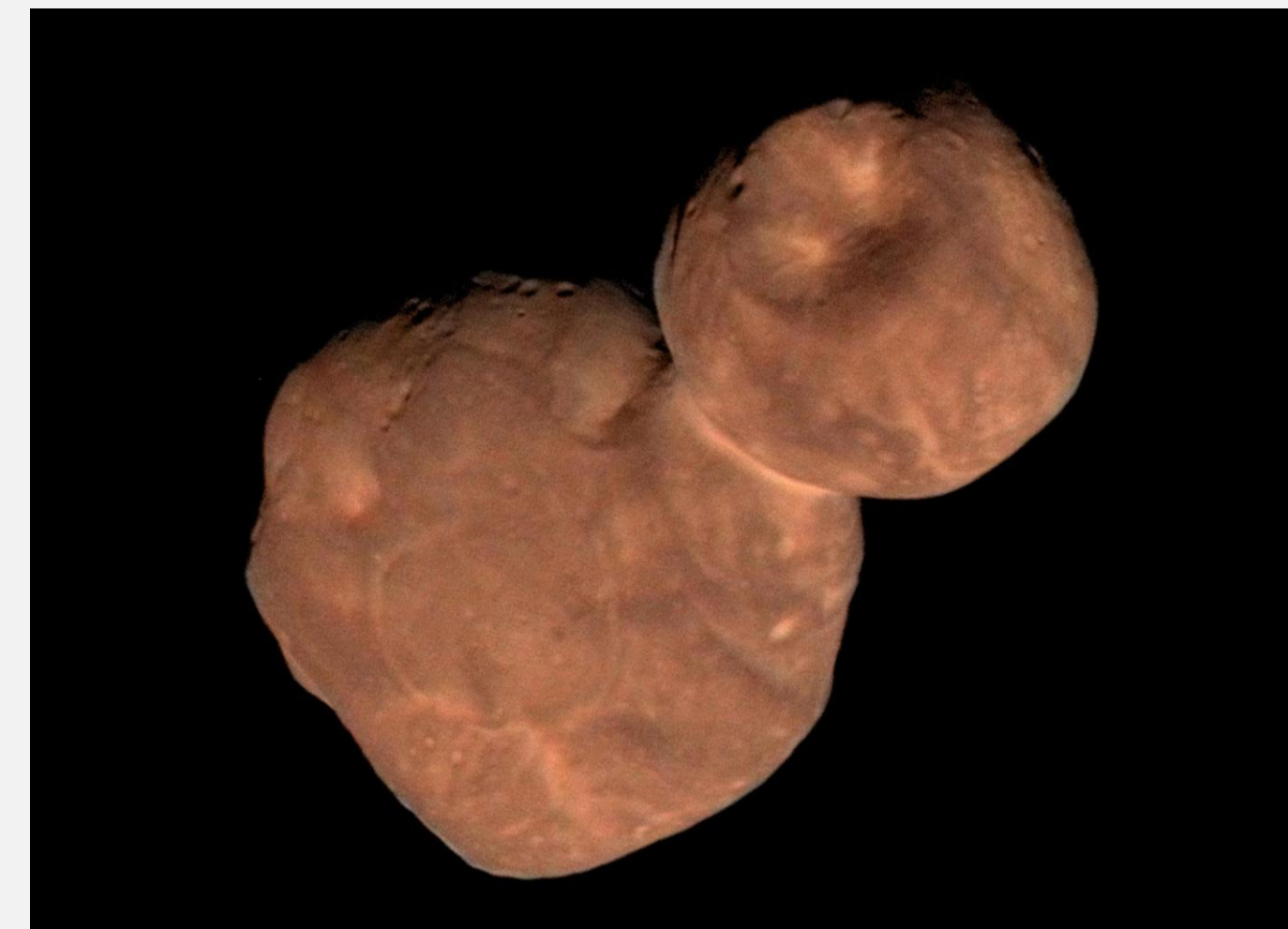


Comets



Near-Earth  
Objects

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



Trans-Neptunian  
Objects

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

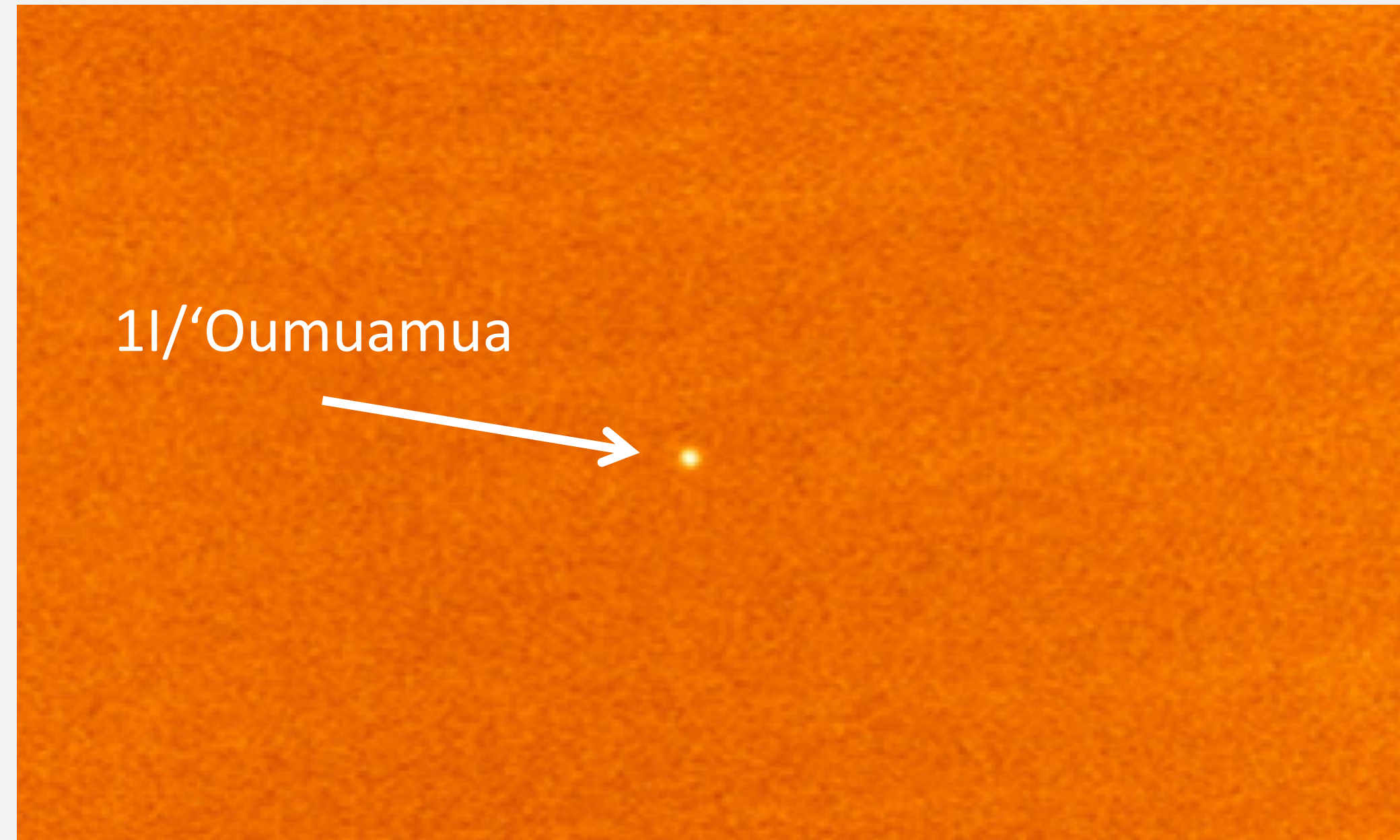
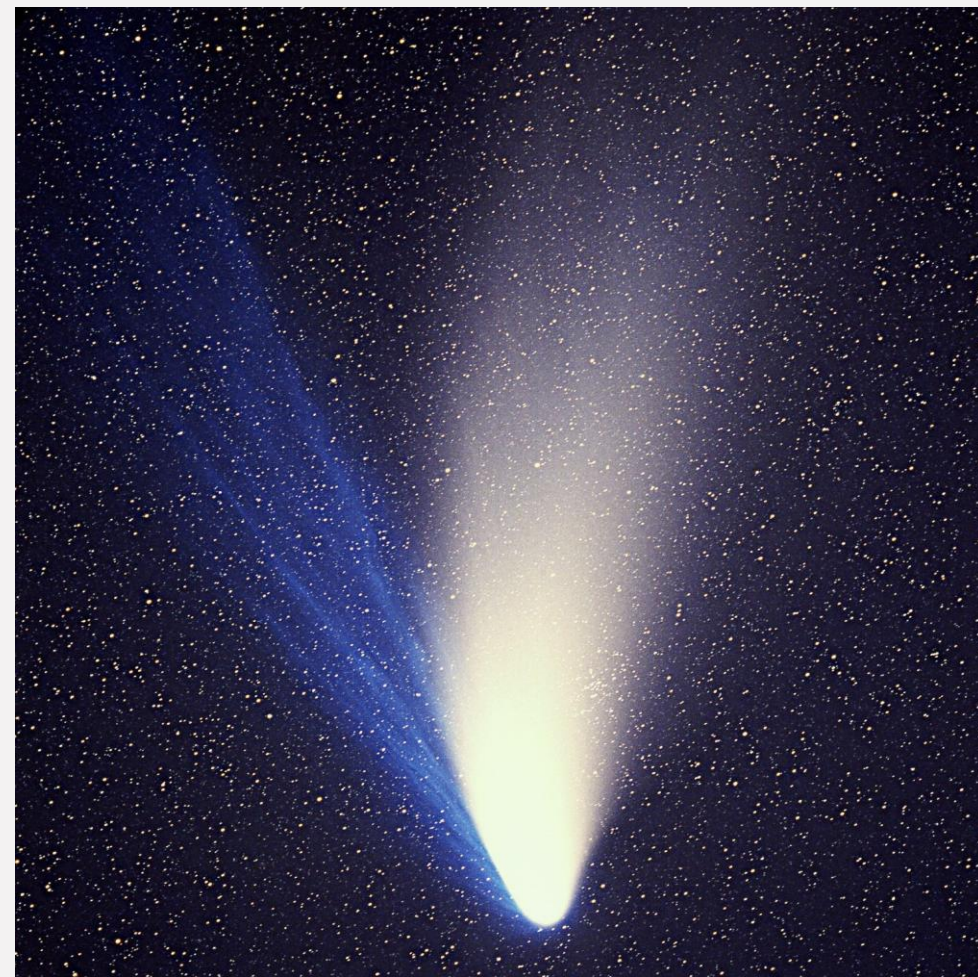


Illustration

Credit: ESO, M. Kornmesser, L. Calcada

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

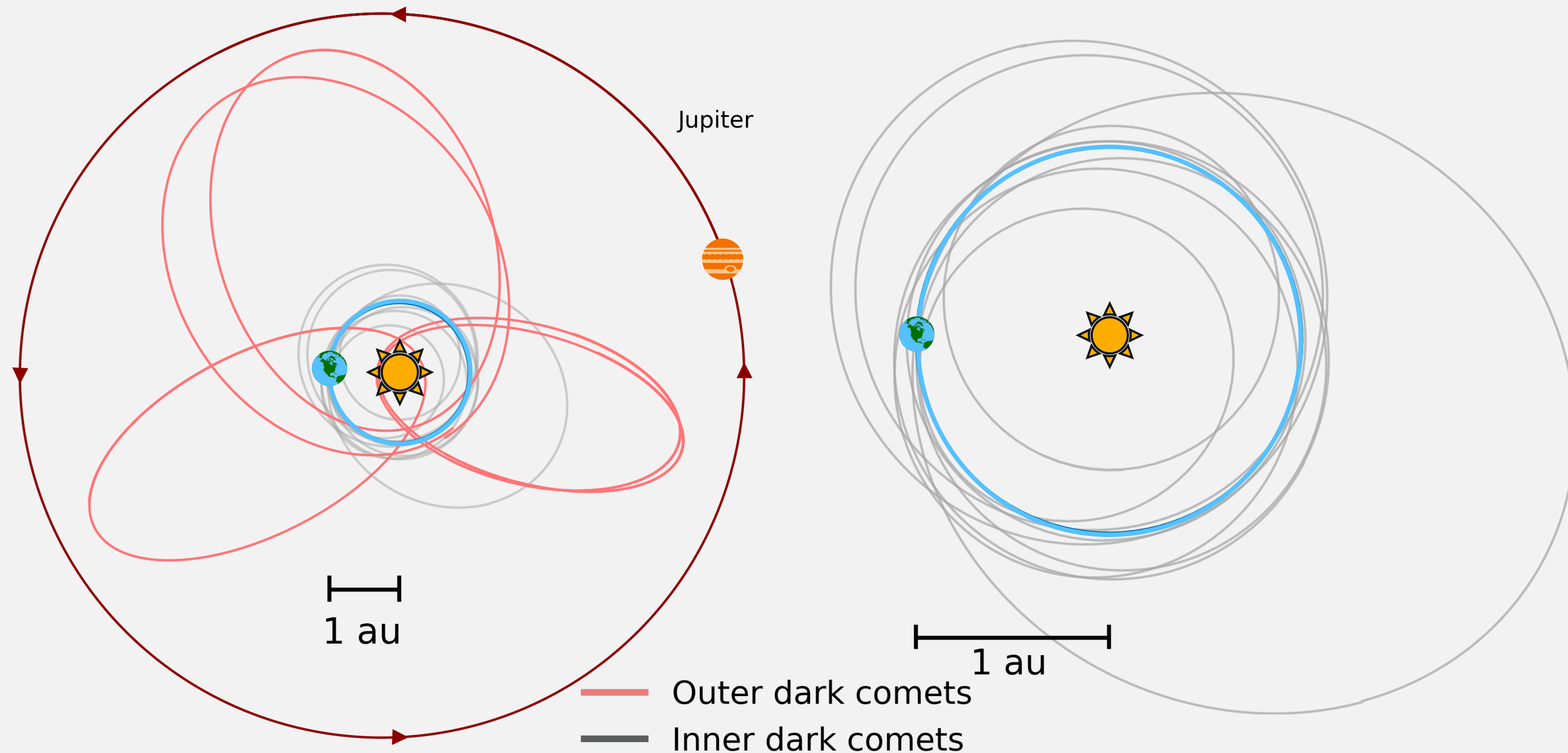
Typical Comet Tail



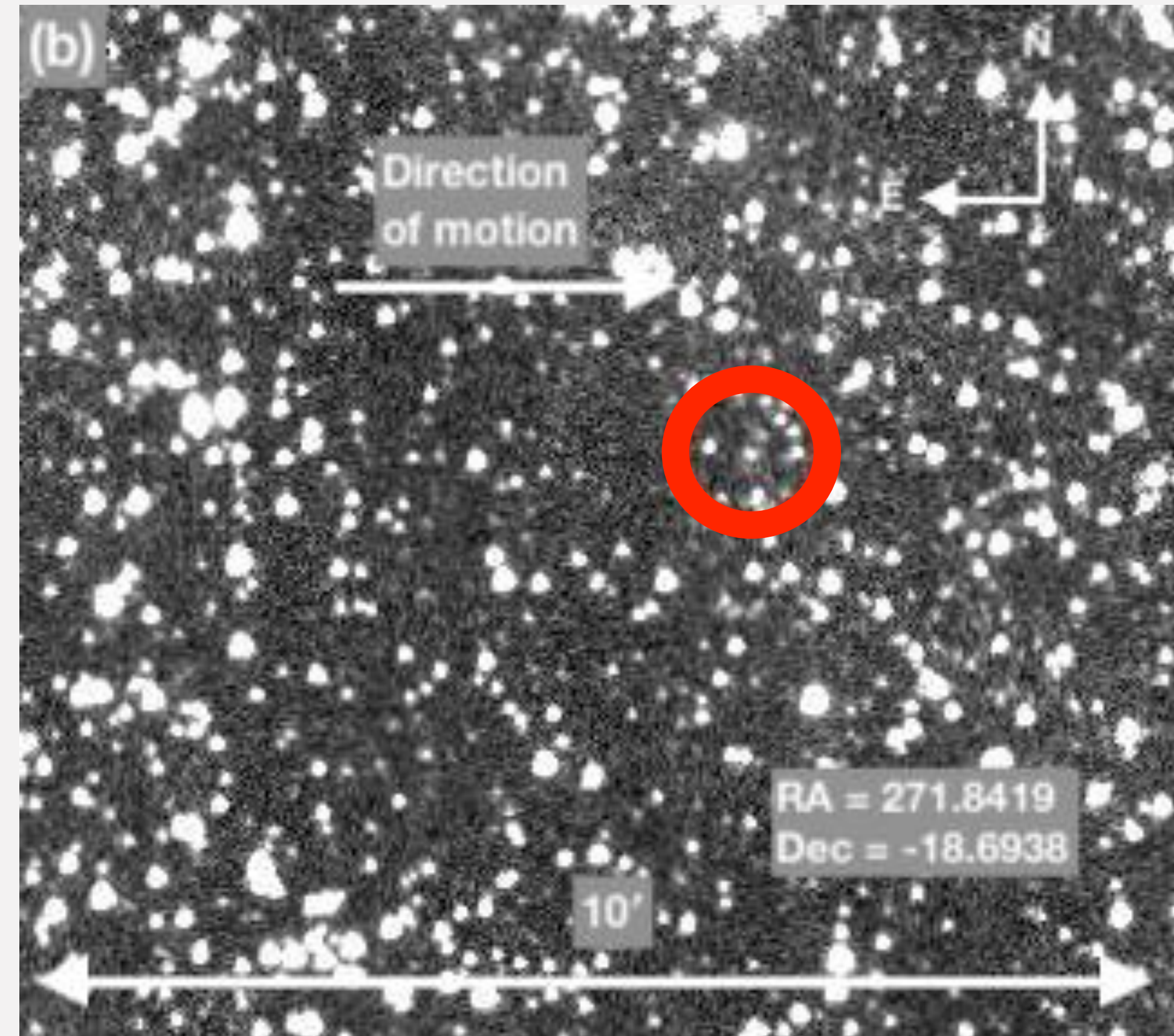
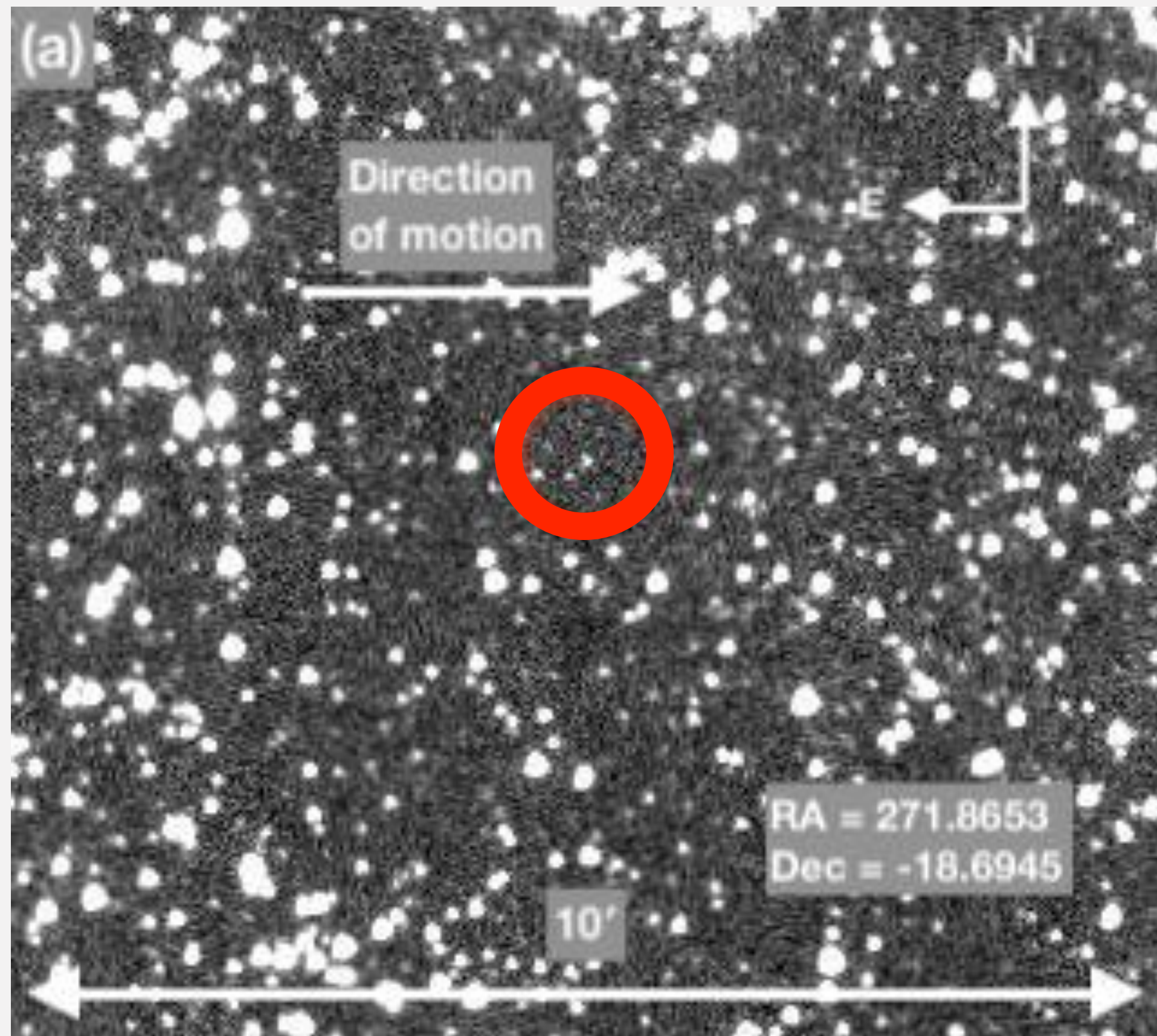
Jewitt & Seligman, ARA&A, Vol 63, 2023

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

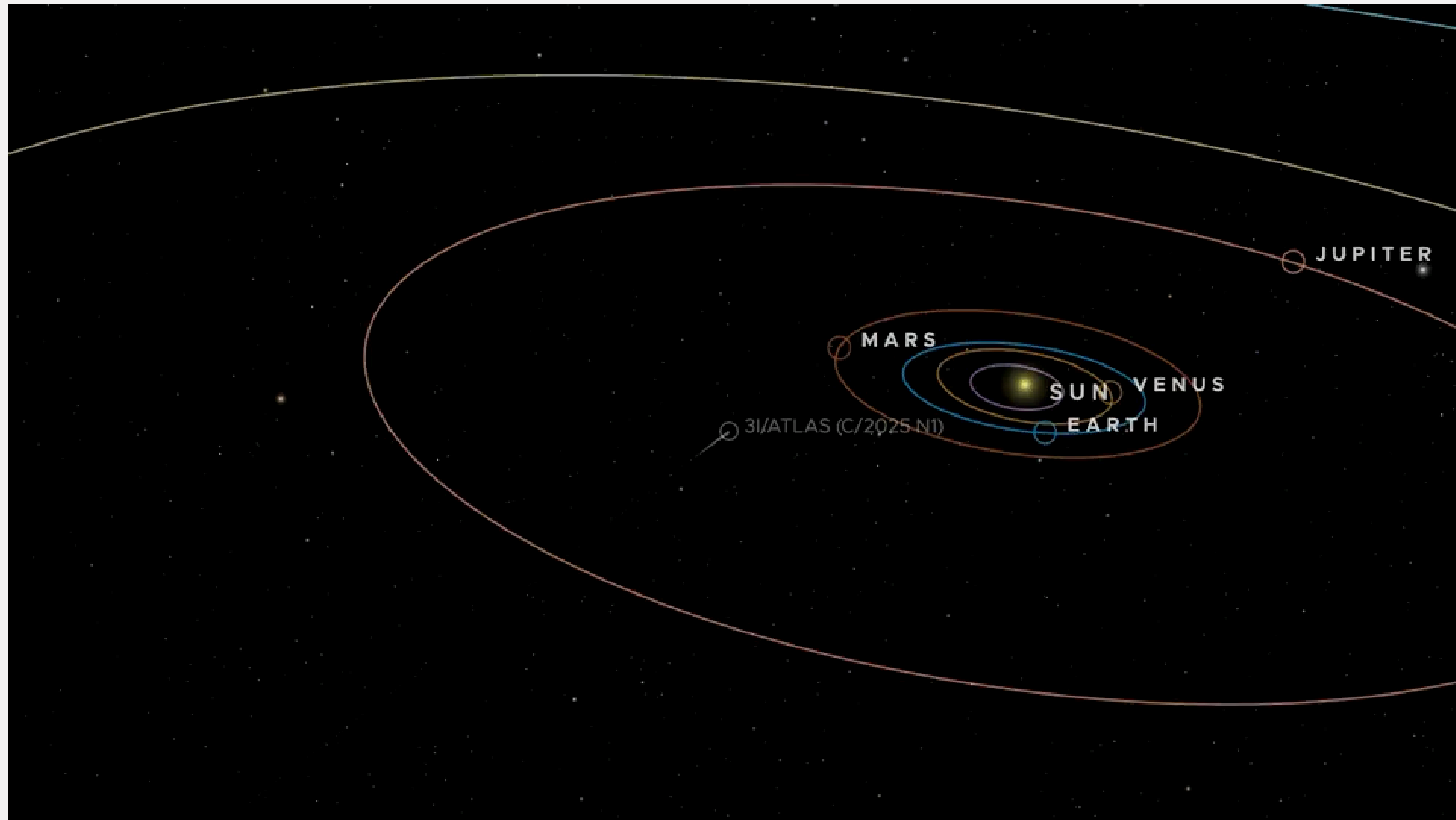
We have since discovered **two populations** of dark comets. Each show **comet-like** nongravitational accelerations **without** tails.



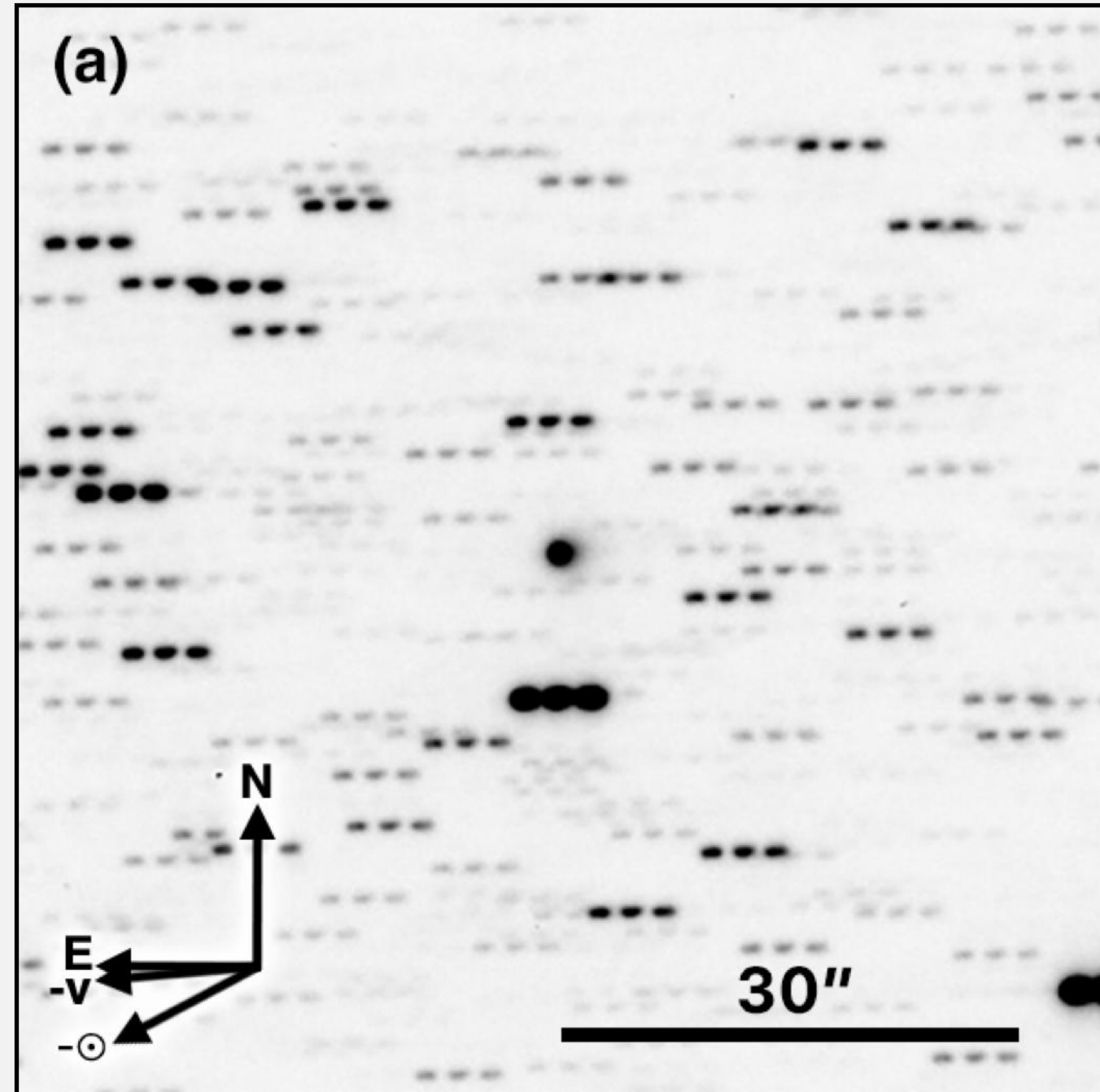
A third interstellar object, **3I/ATLAS**, was discovered on July 1 by the ATLAS Survey.



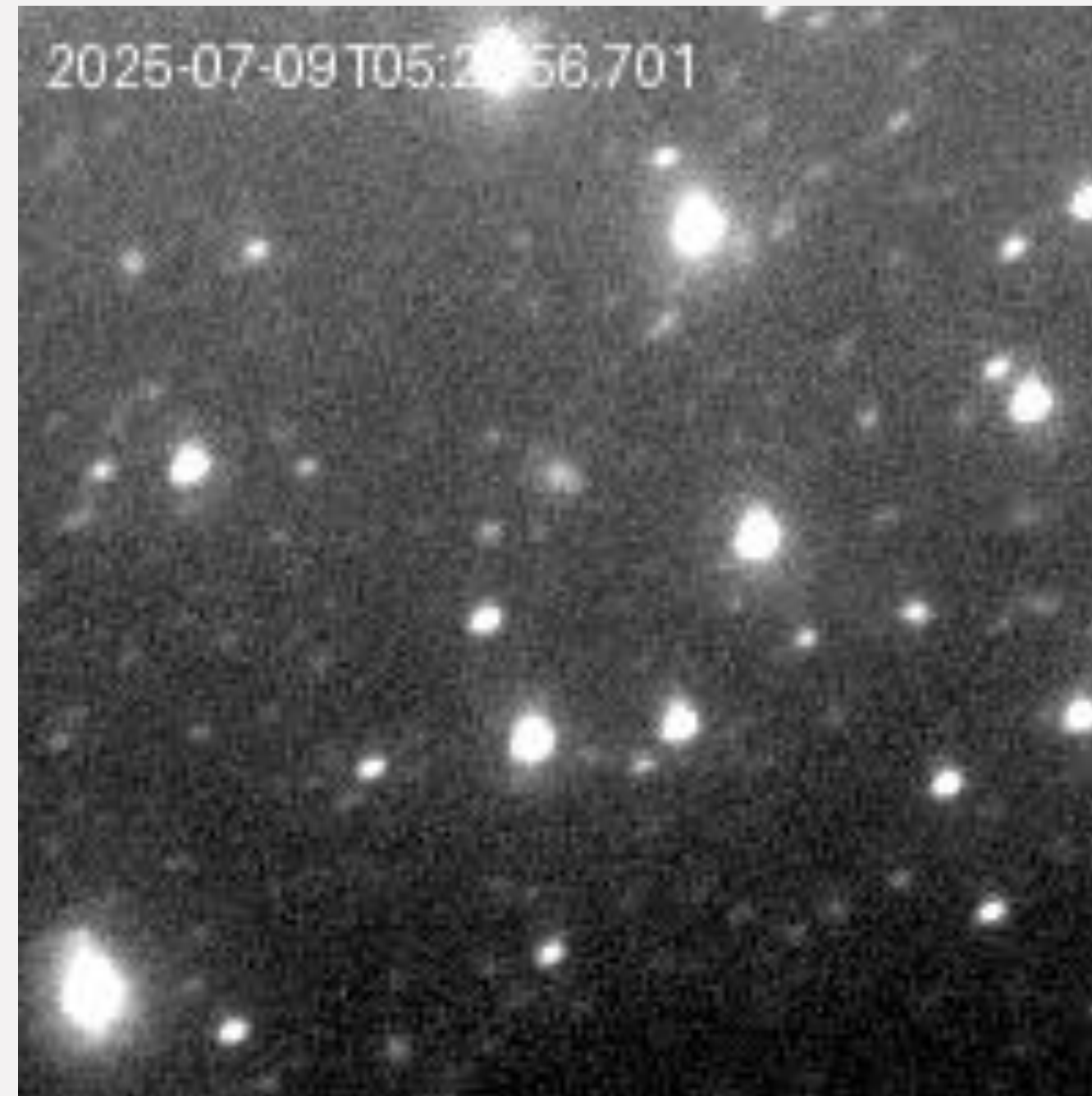
# Objective 1: Identify the strongly hyperbolic trajectory.



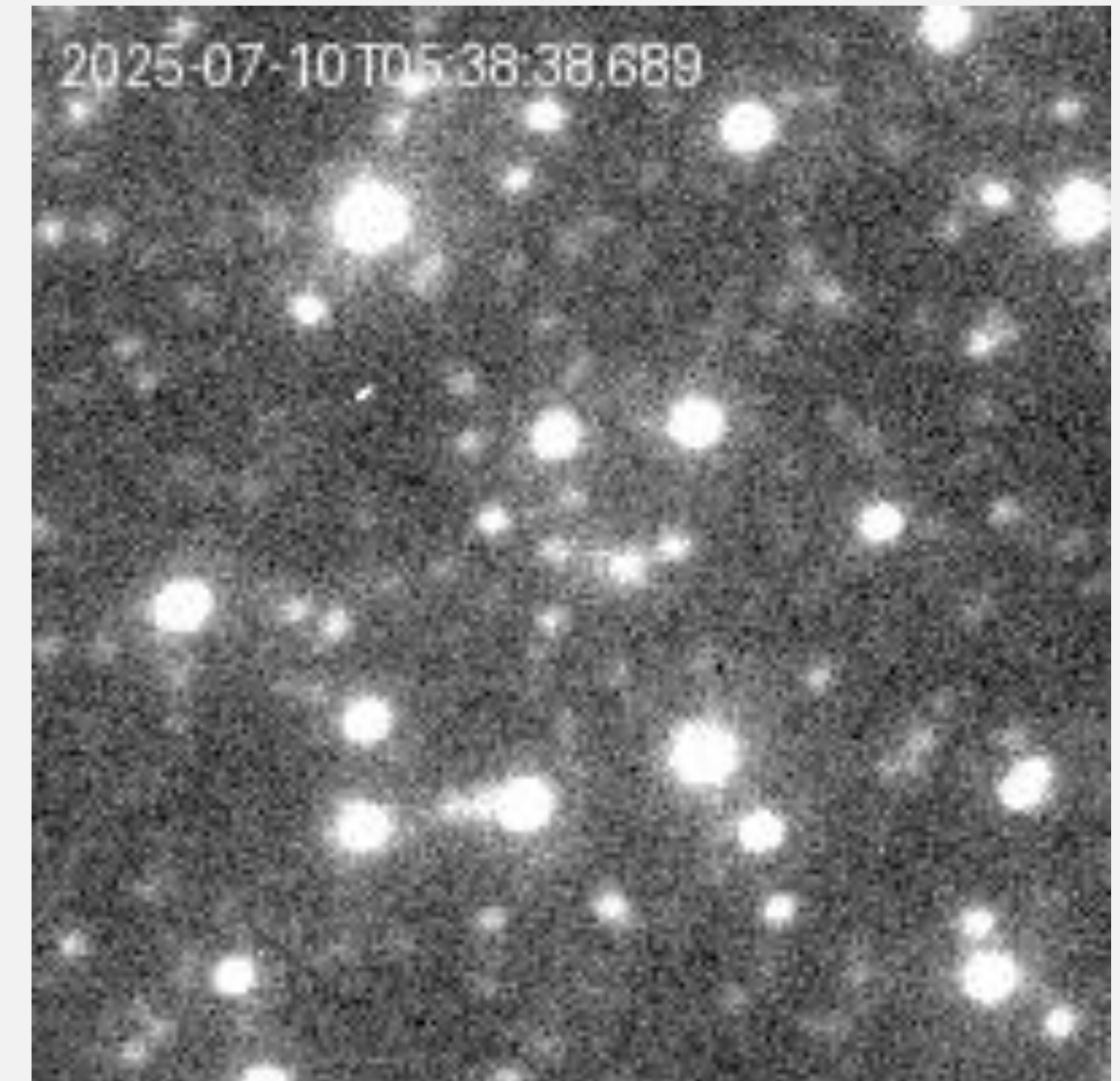
# Objective 2: Identify the presence of a cometary tail.



CFHT Image



SOAR Images 09 July 2025

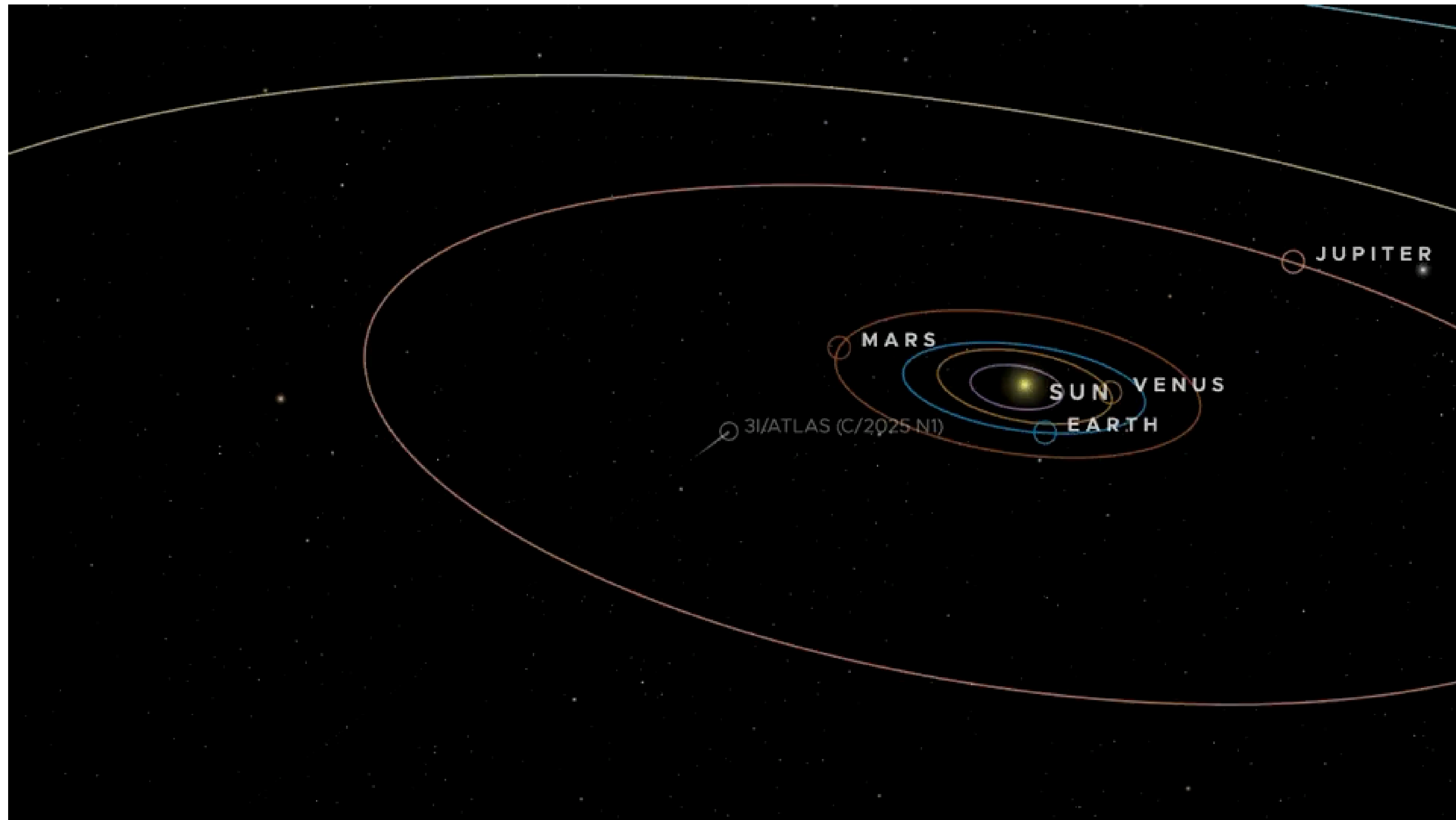


SOAR Images 10 July 2025

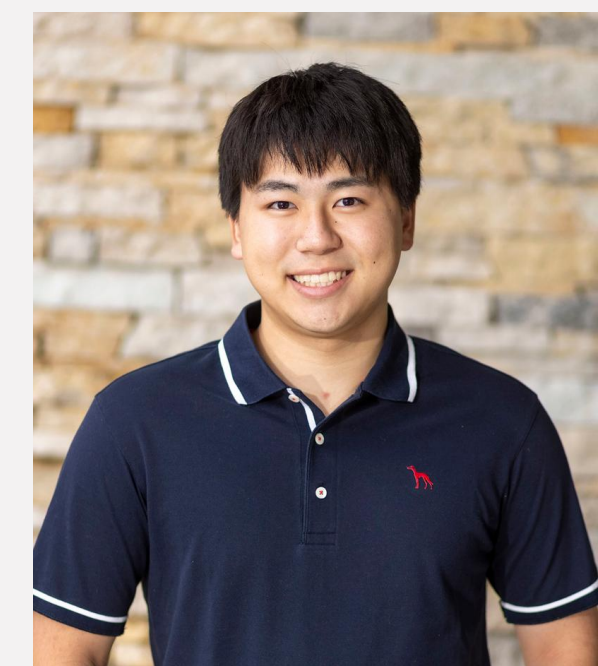
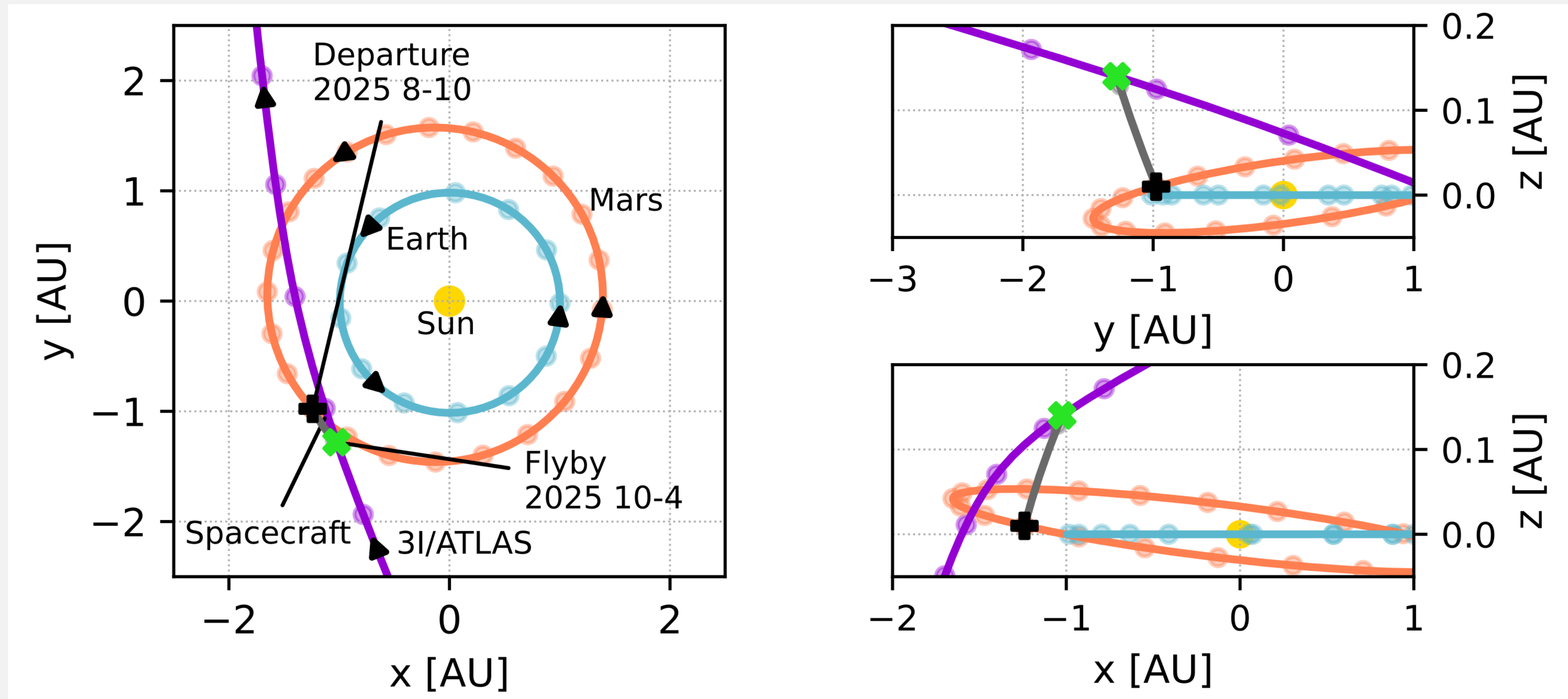


Tessa Frincke, 1st year PhD student at MSU

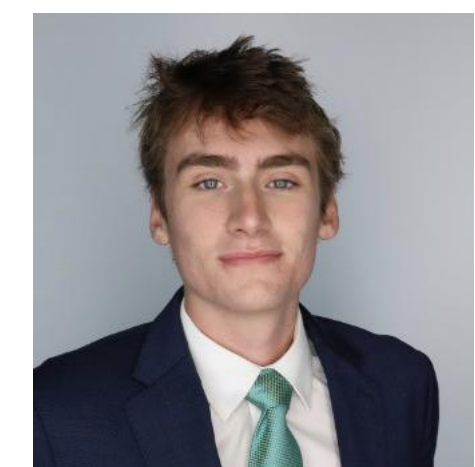
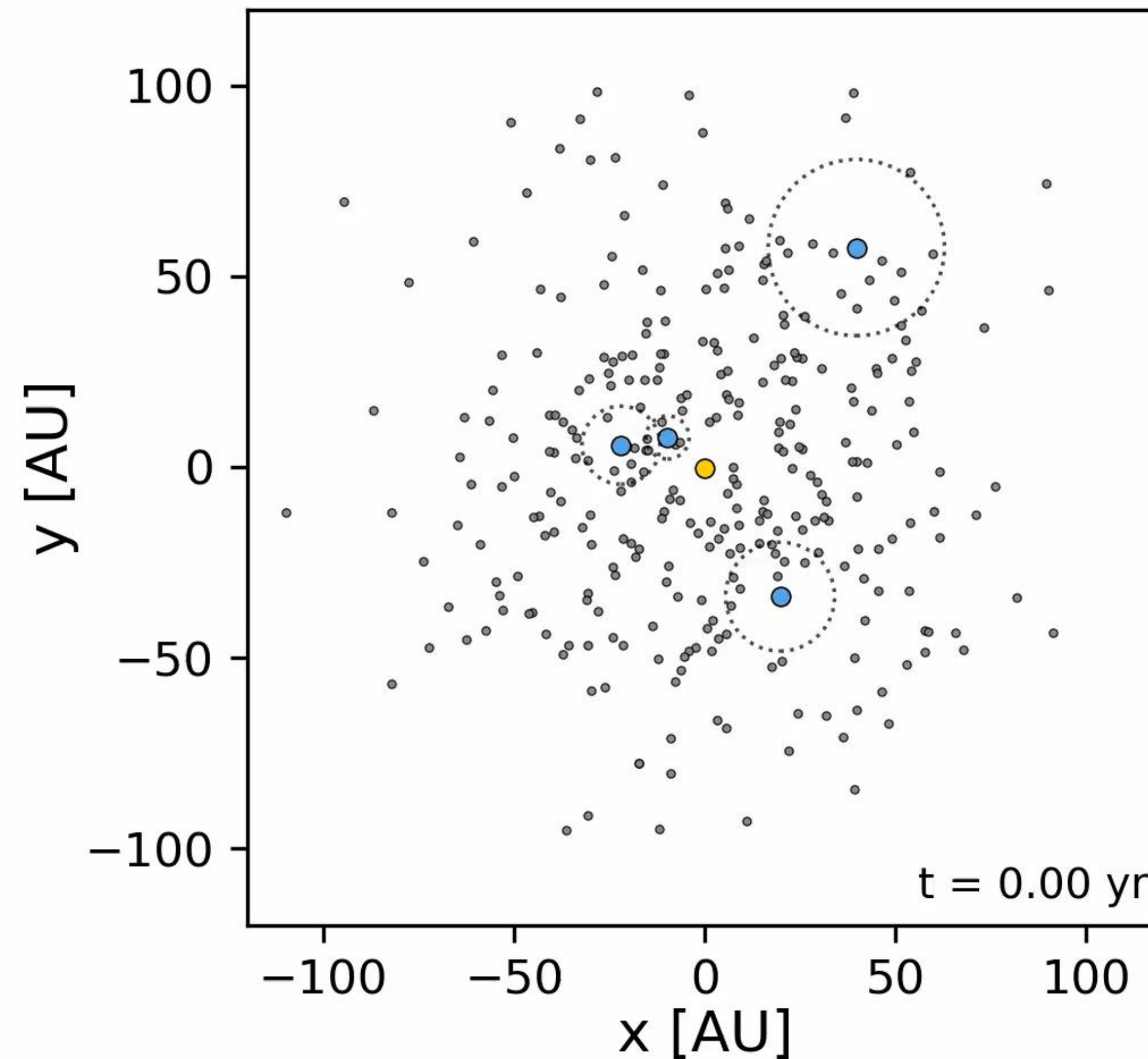
# Objective 1: Identify the strongly hyperbolic trajectory.



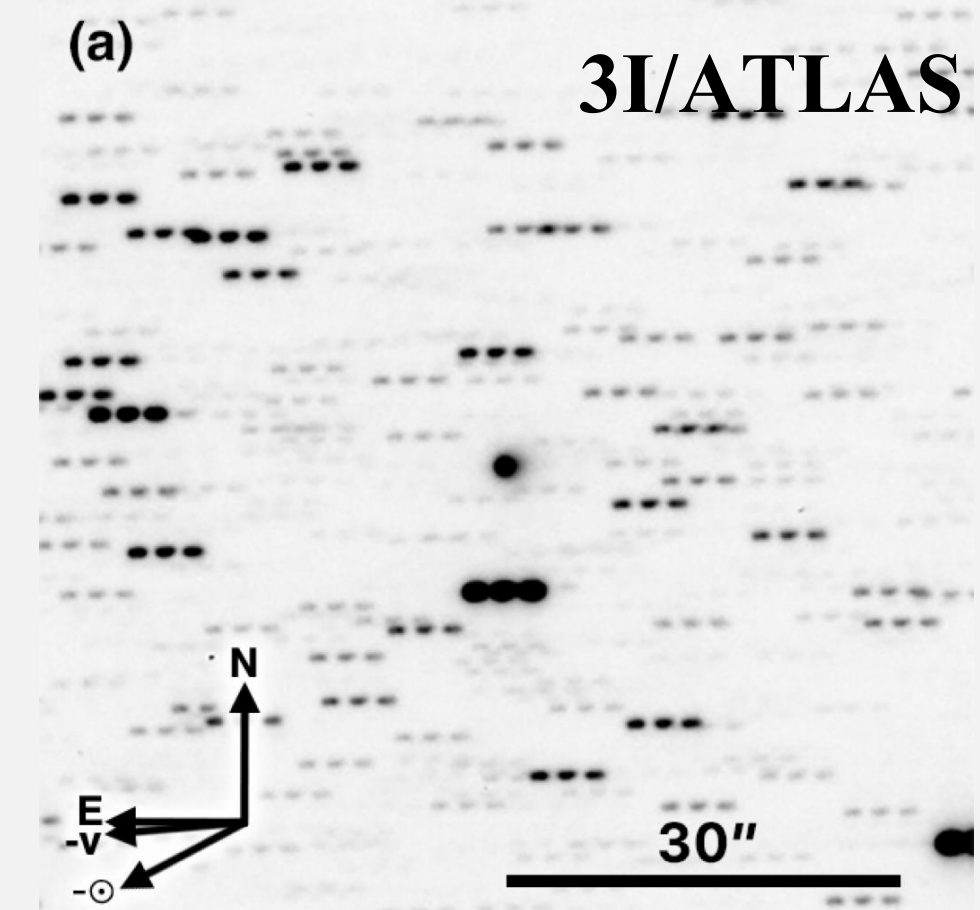
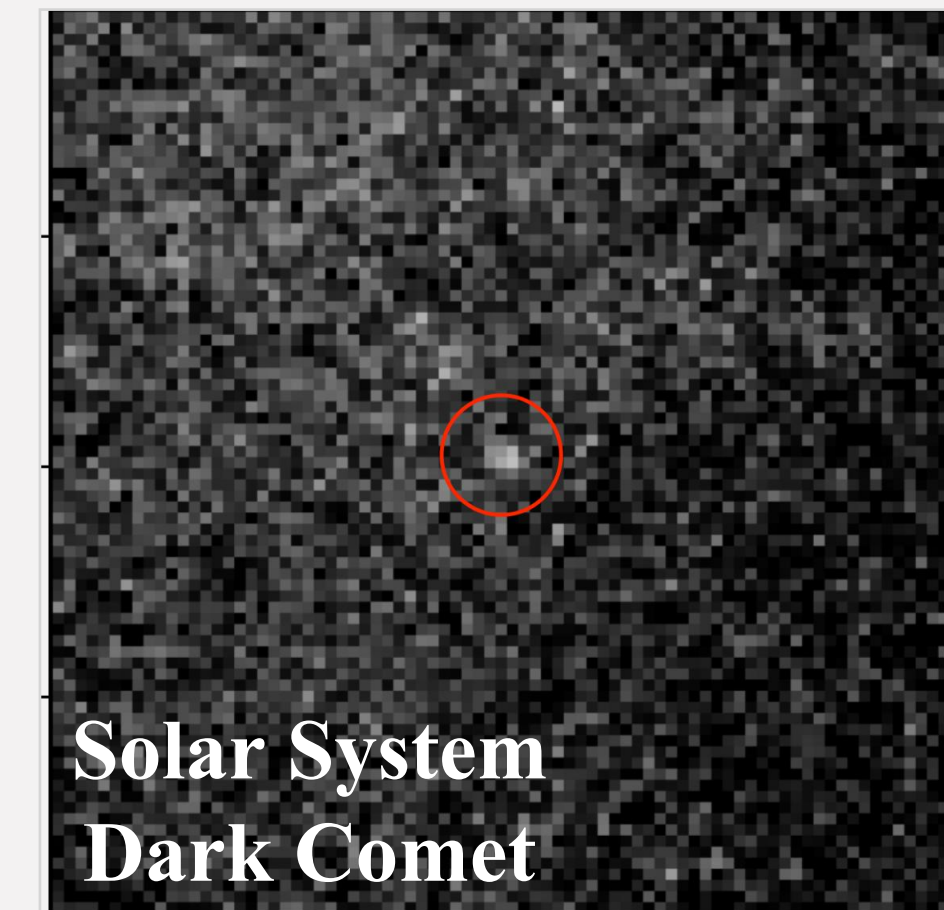
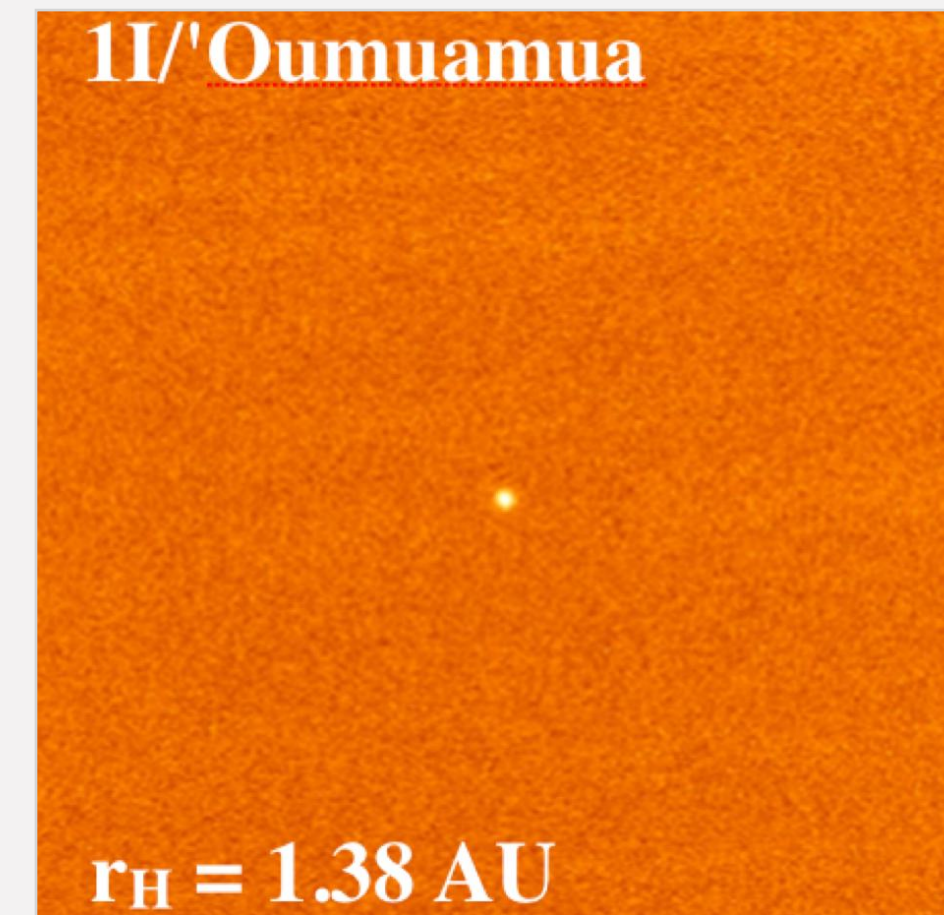
# Objective 3: See if we can **send a spacecraft** to 3I/ATLAS!



# 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.