SSE Decadal Survey and New Horizons: A Rough Start

- July 2001: Senate removes $48.6M from Europa line and adds an equal amount to two other lines—a ”freely competed outer planets line” ($43.6M) and solar probe ($5.0M)
- July 2001: At first meeting of Decadal Steering Committee, the OMB guy in charge of NASA’s budget upbraids us for lobbying Congress in favor of Pluto while he was defending NASA’s highest priority target, Europa. He threatened dire consequences—no further help from OMB
SSE Decadal Survey: Building Consensus in the Community

- July 2001 to July 2002: Four meetings of the Steering Committee, interleaved with ~4 public meetings for each of 6 panels, plus a book of Community White Papers leads to

SSE Decadal Survey: Following the Wisdom of Solomon

• The Decadal Survey creates a new line of medium sized missions—New Frontiers—and gives New Horizons highest priority in that class, provided it becomes a Kuiper Belt/Pluto mission.

• A second spacecraft was not part of the deal

• The Decadal Survey gives the Europa Geophysical Explorer highest priority in the large mission class
New Horizons 2: Déjà Vu
All Over Again

• 2004: A faction within our community lobbies Congress for New Horizons 2, which directs NASA to spend $4M on a NH2 study without any augmentation to NASA’s budget

• NASA takes New Frontiers money to fund the study, which is delivered to Congress in June 2005

• June 10, 2005: We are still lobbying Congress, still breaking ranks, and still subverting the NRC → NASA → OMB process