Dear Leslie,

I am sending you a copy of my latest manuscript, entitled "Ellicular galaxies and their supermassive black holes". The Main text contains ~1900 words and 4 figures; the Method section contains ~300 words. I am also sending you 2 supporting manuscripts, which have been submitted to the *Astrophysical Journal* and are currently under revision.

After watching your (very informative and extremely useful!) SETI talk on Youtube, I decided not to put too much effort in the writing of this cover letter (and I'm very glad to hear that you don't care much about cover letters, as I personally don't like writing them either). The manuscript presents the need for introducing a new class (Ellicular) in the morphological classification scheme of early-type galaxies. Ellicular galaxies are different from lenticular galaxies in the sense that they have intermediate-scale, rather than large-scale, discs. Over the past 3 years of my PhD, I had the chance to talk to many astronomers whose main area of expertise is bulge/disc decomposition of galaxies, and realized that the majority of them consider intermediate-scale discs (see Figure 1 in the manuscript) as something "unphysical". This "bias" seems to always be in the back of their minds when they are modeling galaxies, although it's not easy to track down in the literature. Beside galaxy modelers, the manuscript is also addressed to anyone interested in supermassive black holes or the evolution of high-redshift compact massive quiescent galaxies. These are two "hot topics" of today's Astronomy, thus I feel that the manuscript should have the broadest possible visibility, as that provided by *Nature*. I hope you enjoy the reading.

Sincerely,

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