



Contacts: Tularik Inc.
Traci McCarty (investors/media)
650-825-7182

Tularik Promotes Jin-Long Chen to Vice President, Biology

South San Francisco, Calif., April 30, 2003 -- Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq: TLRK) today announced the promotion of Jin-Long Chen, Ph.D. from Director, Biology to Vice President, Biology. In his new position, Dr. Chen, 40, will oversee all of Tularik's biology research.

Dr. Chen joined Tularik as a scientist in the obesity project in 1995 after receiving his Ph.D. in Molecular Cell Biology from the University of California at Berkeley. He was promoted to Director, Biology in 1999 with responsibility for all research in the metabolic disease area. He also served as Project Leader of the team responsible for the discovery of the Company's Phase 1 drug candidate, T131, for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.

"Jin-Long has been an integral member of Tularik's research team and a key contributor to the success and progression of our portfolio of research and development programs," stated Terry Rosen, Ph.D., Executive Vice President, Operations. "With his increased responsibilities, he will bring his energy, passion and enthusiasm for drug discovery to all of Tularik's research programs."

About Tularik

Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available medicines that act through the regulation of gene expression. Tularik's scientific platform is focused on three therapeutic areas: cancer, immunology and metabolic disease. The Company currently has four drug candidates in clinical trials. In the cancer area, Tularik is currently conducting a pivotal study of T67 for the treatment of HCC and Phase 2 trials with T607 for the treatment of HCC, ovarian cancer, gastric cancer and esophageal cancer. T487, for the treatment of inflammatory diseases, and T131, for the treatment of type 2 diabetes, are in Phase 1 trials to evaluate safety and pharmacokinetic profile. For more information, visit Tularik's Internet website at www.tularik.com.

This press release contains "forward-looking" statements. For this purpose, any statements contained in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "will," "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause the results of Tularik to differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements, including, among others, risks detailed from time to time in Tularik's SEC reports, including the report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002. Tularik does not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements.