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Craig Saxton, M.D. Joins Tularik's Board of Directors

South San Francisco, CA, September 19, 2001 – Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq: TLRK) today announced that Craig Saxton, M.D. has been appointed to the company's Board of Directors.

From 1993 until his retirement this past March, Dr. Saxton was Vice President of Pfizer Inc and Executive Vice President, Pfizer Global Research and Development at Pfizer's Research and Development headquarters in Groton, Connecticut. He has held a variety of executive and research posts at Pfizer over a 25-year span.

"Craig's addition to our Board comes at an opportune time as Tularik's leading drug candidates move toward commercialization," said David V. Goeddel, Ph.D., Tularik's CEO. "In his most recent position, Craig had worldwide responsibility for the development of all new drugs discovered or licensed by Pfizer for human therapeutic use. During his tenure he played a central role in building Pfizer's formidable pipeline of blockbuster products."

Dr. Saxton joined the Central Research Division of Pfizer at their European Research and Development headquarters in Sandwich, U.K. as a Medical Advisor in 1976. After several positions of increasing responsibility within the Clinical Research Division at Sandwich, he relocated to New York, where he was appointed Senior Associate Medical Director of International Pharmaceuticals in 1981. He was named Vice President, Medical Director of the International Division in 1982. In 1988, Dr. Saxton moved to the Central Research Division in Groton, where he was appointed Senior Vice President of Clinical Research and Development. The author of many published papers, his research focus has been the metabolic consequences of cardiac disease.

A native of Yorkshire, England, Dr. Saxton earned his B.S. in Anatomy in 1962 and his M.D. in 1965 from Leeds University in the U.K. After internship and residency in Medicine, he was a Research Fellow in Cardiovascular Research at the University of

Leeds, and subsequently undertook research in Applied Physiology at the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine and Physiology in Farnborough, U.K.

Dr. Saxton is on the Board of Directors of the African Medical and Research Foundation in New York, and a member of the American Academy of Pharmaceutical Physicians and the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering.

Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available drugs that act through the regulation of gene expression. Tularik programs address cancer, viral diseases, inflammation, immune disorders, lipid disorders, diabetes and obesity. Tularik has established strategic partnerships with Japan Tobacco Inc., Roche Bioscience and Knoll AG. 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-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2001.