



ZIOPHARM Oncology to Present at MASS Opportunities Partnering Forum

NEW YORK, NY - October 27, 2005 - ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. (OTC BB: ZIOP) announced today that Richard Bagley, President and Chief Operating Officer, will present at the MASS Opportunities Partnering Forum on Thursday, November 3, 2005 at 11:20 a.m. EST at the Hilton Boston Logan Airport in Boston, MA. Mr. Bagley will provide an overview of the Company and an update on its clinical development programs.

The presentation will be webcast live and can be accessed by visiting the Investor Relations section at www.ziopharm.com. The webcast will be archived for ninety days.

About ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc.

ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company seeking to acquire, develop and commercialize a diverse, risk-sensitive portfolio of in-licensed cancer drugs that address unmet medical needs. Currently, the Company is in U.S. phase I studies for its two product candidates, ZIO-101 and ZIO-201. For more information, visit www.ziopharm.com.

Forward-Looking Safe Harbor Statement:

This press release contains forward-looking statements for ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results and expectations expressed in these forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially from these statements. Among other things, there can be no assurance that any of the Company's development efforts relating to its product candidates will be successful, or such product candidates will be successfully commercialized. Other risks that affect forward-looking information contained in this press release include the possibility of being unable to obtain regulatory approval of the Company's product candidates, the risk that the results of clinical trials may not support the Company's claims, and the Company's reliance on third parties to develop its product candidates. The Company assumes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements, except as required by law.

Contact:

Kelly Luethje
Manager, Investor Relations/Communication
617-259-1975