



ZiOPHARM Fills Three New Senior Management Posts

NEW HAVEN, CT SEPTEMBER 14 - Newly formed and privately held ZiOPHARM, Inc., headed by chief executive officer Jonathan J. Lewis, MD, PhD announced the members of its senior management team whose positions are effective immediately.

"This is a 'Dream Team' for a cancer products company," said Dr. Lewis, former chief medical officer of Antigenics, Inc. who earlier pioneered cancer research at Yale and Memorial Sloan-Kettering.

"Each has proven himself many times over in his functional area, and together they bring enormous expertise and experience on how to do things right the first time - a rare finding in any business, and an especially important one in a business dedicated to bringing life-saving medicines to market as quickly, carefully, and effectively as possible."

ZiOPHARM's four-member senior management team is comprised of:

Jonathan J. Lewis, MD, PhD, Chief Executive Officer & Executive Chairman. Dr. Jonathan Lewis has both academic expertise and industry recognition in product development, clinical trials strategy and management, and the direction of patient, support groups and opinion leader advocacy. With over 15 years of experience combined at Yale-New Haven Medical Center, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Antigenics, Inc., Dr. Lewis has highly regarded leadership skills in translational research and product development, the cornerstones of ZiOPHARM's execution strategy. While at Antigenics he helped to raise over \$100 million from investors, and his reputation with Paramount Capital, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center led to a \$5-million first-round private financing of ZiOPHARM from Paramount and associated investors. Dr. Lewis is a surgeon and molecular biologist by training.

Richard Bagley, President & Chief Operating Officer. The former president of Squibb US, Richard Bagley heads ZiOPHARM's business, financial and administrative functions. Mr. Bagley has more than 35 years of experience in the life sciences industry, including CEO stints at three biotech companies. Recently, Bagley has completed six major biotech-partnering transactions and has raised over \$350 million from partnering arrangements and public equity offerings. He has been extensively involved with small molecule drugs. Bagley launched Tagamet(R) in the US at SmithKline, positioned Capoten(R) for heart failure and completed the pre-launch of Pravachol(R) at Squibb, and led the funding of Velcade(R) development at ProScript. Bagley also has experience with peptide immunotherapies and monoclonal antibodies, and is a senior advisor to the MD Anderson Cancer Center. Mr. Bagley was a member of the board of the Fox Chase Cancer Center, and a founding director of BIO (the Biotechnology Industry Organization).

Robert Peter Gale, MD, PhD, DSc (Hon.), Chief Scientific Officer & Head of Research. As head of research for ZiOPHARM, Dr. Robert Peter Gale brings more than 30 years of experience in cancer research and clinical trial design and interpretation. He has published several hundred studies in basic and clinical sciences. Gale is highly regarded as a clinical trials scientist and innovator. He and his colleagues at the Weizmann Institute of Science helped identify the molecular abnormality responsible for CML that laid the basis for developing Gleevec. Gale served on the faculty of the UCLA School of Medicine in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology and Oncology, and is widely known for his leadership in Chernobyl and the Soviet Union after having been engaged there by Presidents Gorbachev and Reagan. Most recently, Gale was senior vice president for medical affairs for Antigenics, Inc.

Mark Thornton, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer & Head of Product Development. Dr. Mark Thornton is head of product development at ZiOPHARM and brings over 25 years of experience at the US FDA and in the pharmaceutical industry. While at the FDA, Dr. Thornton led the review teams for Erbitux(R) and Pegasys(R) and evaluated hundreds of INDs for both CDER and CBER. In the pharmaceutical industry, Thornton completed multiple product applications to the FDA while director of research for Otsuka America and as director of clinical research and evaluation at both North American Vaccines and Univax Biologics. Thornton's unique educational background combines graduate degrees in biostatistics/epidemiology with pharmacology/toxicology and a degree in medicine.

About ZiOPHARM, Inc.

ZiOPHARM, Inc. is a privately held company founded in January 2004 to develop and commercialize a diverse, risk-sensitive portfolio of in-licensed cancer therapies. All products are focused on addressing unmet medical needs, with the potential for expedited approval and broad usage.

For more information, please visit www.ziopharm.com