



Contacts:

Chris Martin

Vice President, Public Relations

CMartin@DavidJamesGroup.com | 630-670-2745

Becky Bunn, MSc

IASLC Project Specialist

Becky.Bunn@IASLC.org | 720-254-9509

Chiang Mai Medical Oncologist to be Honored for Extraordinary Contributions to Lung Cancer Association

The International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer to Present IASLC Merit Award to Sumitra Thongprasert

DENVER – Medical oncologist and Chiang Mai, Thailand resident, Sumitra Thongprasert, MD, will be recognized by The International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) with a Distinguished Award at the IASLC 17th World Conference on Lung Cancer (WCLC) in Vienna, Austria. Dr. Thongprasert will accept the IASLC Merit Award, honoring her extraordinary contributions to the IASLC’s development.

Dr. Thongprasert is a Professor Emeritus on the Faculty of Medicine at Chiang Mai University in Thailand, as well as Senior Consultant in Oncology at Bangkok Hospital Chiang Mai and Director of the hospital’s Center of Excellence in Cancer. Her research interests include lung cancer quality of life, chemotherapy, and targeted therapy for lung cancer and biliary tract cancer.

“The IASLC wouldn’t be such a strong organization without the individuals who are devoted to supporting the society and furthering its mission,” said Fred R. Hirsch, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine and Pathology at the University of Colorado Cancer Center and School of Medicine, and CEO of the IASLC. “Dr. Thongprasert has been awarded mainly due to her initiation and development of the Asia Pacific Lung Cancer Conference (APLCC) and committee within the IASLC. Through her involvement with the IASLC, and her own work in advocacy and education, Dr. Thongprasert has demonstrated a commendable commitment to the industry as a whole and the fight against lung cancer.”

Dr. Thongprasert is extremely active in fostering thoracic oncology education and collaboration in Southeast Asia. She is also an advocate for female oncologists, serving as a role model for other women and encouraging their career development and consideration for leadership positions. She accepted the Women for Oncology Award from ESMO for significantly supporting women in oncology.

In addition to high involvement with other oncology organizations, Dr. Thongprasert chaired IASLC’s Education Committee from 2010-2014 and served on the IASLC Board of Directors from 2011-2015. She is also a founding member of the Thai Society of Clinical Oncology (TSCO), as well as the Asia Pacific Lung Cancer Group and the Asia Pacific Lung Cancer Conference (APLCC) which is a biennial event hosted by IASLC, TSCO, Chiang Mai Lung Cancer Group, Faculty of Medicine at Chiang Mai University, and a local organizing committee.



www.iaslc.org

Dr. Thongprasert received her undergraduate and medical degrees at Chiang Mai University. Following that, the Anandamahidol foundation, Thailand, awarded Dr. Thongprasert the scholarship to train as a fellowship in hematology-oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, USA. She then returned to her alma mater, Chiang Mai University, to establish the Medical Oncology Unit. She served as Professor of Oncology from 1999 to 2012 before being named Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Thongprasert will be honored on Dec. 4, 2016 at the Opening Plenary Session at the IASLC WCLC in Vienna, Austria. The IASLC WCLC is the world's largest meeting dedicated to lung cancer and other thoracic malignancies, attracting more than 6,000 researchers, physicians, and specialists from more than 100 countries. The IASLC WCLC will take place in Vienna, Austria Dec. 4-7, 2016. For more information on the 2016 WCLC, visit: <http://wclc2016.iaslc.org/>.

About the WCLC:

The WCLC is the world's largest meeting dedicated to lung cancer and other thoracic malignancies, attracting more than 6,000 researchers, physicians, and specialists from more than 100 countries. The goal is to increase awareness, collaboration, and understanding of lung cancer, and to help participants implement the latest developments across the globe. Organized under the theme of "Together Against Lung Cancer," the conference will cover a wide range of disciplines and unveil several research studies and clinical trial results. For more information, visit <http://wclc2016.iaslc.org/>.

About the IASLC:

The International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) is the only global organization dedicated to the study of lung cancer. Founded in 1974, the association's membership includes more than 5,000 lung cancer specialists in over 100 countries. Visit www.iaslc.org for more information.

###

