

# FOREWORD

Dr. Betty Jane McWilliams has assembled a gold mine of important and useful clinical information about cleft palate in this issue. She has selected authors and topics that virtually define this disorder in its many clinical ramifications. These ramifications range from psychosocial development to language development and its facilitation, to say nothing of the evidence of effectiveness of speech therapy as an alternative to physical intervention in some cases of velopharyngeal insufficiency.

The cleft palate team has long been a model of inter-professional clinical practice and research at its best. This issue of *Seminars* attests to the success of this model. It is fitting that Dr. McWilliams, who has led in this work from her position as Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, serves as Guest Editor.

William H. Perkins  
Editor-in-Chief