Veterinary oncology has been a rapidly progressing science in recent years. A plethora of publications reporting numerous bits of data and survival statistics are available for a reader’s use. It is often difficult to summarize these data into a working clinical tool, and some topics seem to be forgotten. In this issue of the Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice I have selected a leading group of authors to review 15 topics related to surgical oncology. Rather than review the surgical management of specific tumor types, I chose topics that are not well represented in the veterinary oncology literature, yet are used nearly every day in surgical oncology practice. As you see in the table of contents, some topics are fresh and have not been reviewed before; other titles are familiar, but on closer inspection, the reader will find are presented from a more original perspective.

My hope is that students, practitioners, and academic surgeons alike will find this issue to be a useful reference, and a publication that promotes some thought and raises questions about the practice of veterinary surgical oncology today; it is questions and innovative thought that will guide surgical oncology into tomorrow. If I achieve these goals, the labor expended compiling and editing this issue will have been well worth it.

My expressed thanks goes to all the authors. Without their expertise and timely submission of manuscripts, this issue would not have been possible. I also thank the staff at W. B. Saunders for their help in the production of this project.

STEPHEN D. GILSON, DVM
Guest Editor

Sonora Veterinary Surgery and Oncology
6969 E. Shea Boulevard
Suite 200
Scottsdale, AZ 85254