Dear Dr. Buckley:

Having had the privilege of witnessing and experiencing pigs’ intelligence and inquisitive personalities while filming the movie *Babe*, I’m horrified to learn from my friends at PETA that these animals endure mutilation and death during medical training drills at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine (UTCOM).

These pigs—who are used by UTCOM and its Erlanger Health System partner, Life Force Air Medical—are treated like laboratory equipment and then thrown out.

I understand that Life Force medical providers who object to these cruel mandatory training sessions on live pigs run the risk of losing their jobs. How is this allowed when every medical school in the country, including UTCOM, has stopped using animals for undergraduate medical education, and organizations like the Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association ended their use of live animals years ago and now only use advanced human patient simulators and human cadavers for teaching critical care transports?

I hope one of the first acts in your new role as chancellor of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center is to end this barbaric use of animals in medical training.

Yours truly,

James Cromwell