

KOSHARI FILMS

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January 7, 2008

Mark Richardson, M.D., M.Sc.B., M.B.A.

Dean

OHSU School of Medicine

Office of the Dean, L102

3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Rd.

Portland, OR 97239

VIA FACSIMILE (503-494-3400) AND REGULAR MAIL

Dear Dr. Richardson:

As someone concerned about the inhumane treatment of animals, I am writing to ask that you end the use of live pigs in the medical student physiology course at the Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine. Such a highly distinguished institution as OHSU should employ modern teaching methods rather than outmoded and cruel methods.

I have seen firsthand that pigs are highly intelligent, social animals. Animal behavior experts agree, and scientific evidence suggests that pigs are very smart, very sensitive animals. Experiences like those I had on the set of the film *Babe* have reinforced for me just how complex pigs are.

The utter lack of educational necessity makes OHSU's live pig lab that much more egregiously inhumane.

All but a handful of America's medical schools no longer use live animals to teach medical students. Many top-ranked schools stopped using animals many years ago, and they have continued to produce outstanding physicians. It seems to be well past time for OHSU to do the same.

I urge you to immediately end the use of live animals for medical student training at the Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine.

Sincerely,


James Cromwell