

## Monash Memo

<http://www.monash.edu.au/news/monashmemo/assets/includes/content/20101110/stories-uni-news2.html>

### Praise for HIV research

**10 November 2010**

The research success of Monash student Gregor Lichtfuss has been recognised at this year's prestigious AusBiotech–GSK Student Excellence Awards.

The awards recognise and encourage promising research students and raise awareness of research translation and applications.

Gregor received the AusBiotech-GSK Student Excellence Award for Victoria for research into 'Natural Killer cell defects in HIV infection: Supplying the tools to support the development of better HIV therapy.'

He is currently a PhD student with Monash University and the Burnet Institute's Centre for Virology.

Gregor and his colleagues have demonstrated how current treatment for HIV fails to completely restore the function of the immune system. By using a new technique they have identified, improvements in the development of anti-HIV drugs and novel treatment strategies can be measured and directly applied to monitor the function of an immune cell called the Natural Killer (NK) cell, which is important in killing HIV-infected cells.

AusBiotech represents more than 3000 members, encompassing medicines, medical diagnostics and devices, agriculture, alternative fuels and climate change.



**Gregor Lichtfuss**