Gerold Stucki is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Sciences and Health Policy at the University of Lucerne and Director of Swiss Paraplegic Research (SPF) in Switzerland. After his medical studies and his clinical training in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) and Rheumatology, he obtained a Master of Science in Health Policy and Management from the Harvard School of Public Health (USA) and a diploma in Biostatistics and Epidemiology from the University of McGill (Canada).

In the context of Prof. Stucki's research agenda in human functioning and rehabilitation that supports a more comprehensive understanding of the human experience and person- and community-centered care, he has been collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) in an international effort to implement the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) in the rehabilitation/health sector. In this effort, he initiated the ICF Research Branch (www.icf-research-branch.org) in 2003, an international research network and cooperation partner within WHO's German Collaborating Center for the Family of International Classifications.

In 2012, Prof. Stucki received the honour of becoming a Foreign Associate of the Institute of Medicine (now called National Academy of Medicine).