

Luzern, 5. November 2020

**Dies Academicus der Universität Luzern vom 5. November 2020**

## **Laudatio für Ehrendoktor Prof. em. Dr. Jerome Bickenbach**

Prof. Dr. med. Gerold Stucki, Vorsteher des Departements Gesundheitswissenschaften und Medizin

With the Doctor honoris causa the Department of Health Sciences and Medicine honors the outstanding contribution Prof. Bickenbach has made to the development of the Department and ensuring its international recognition.

Rooted in philosophy and law Prof. Bickenbach has advanced the conceptual foundation of the health, functioning, and rehabilitation sciences. Most importantly, he is the scientific brain behind WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) launched in 2001. Understanding the need to bridge research and practice, he has spearheaded the "learning health system" to strengthen the response of health systems to the health needs of populations, including those living with spinal cord injury. He has also inspired generations of health scientists worldwide. For many, he has become a mentor and friend.