Dr. Stephen Luby studied philosophy and earned a Bachelor of Arts summa cum laude from Creighton University in 1981. He earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas.

Luby has worked extensively in the public health sector with a global career that has impacted millions of lives. His community and international work has focused on helping others, including understanding why children in low income countries are at high risk for life threatening diarrhea and respiratory infections and researching strategies to reduce those risks.

Luby, who lived with his family in Pakistan for five years and in Bangladesh for eight years, currently works at Stanford University as a professor of infectious diseases and geographic medicine. He has been recognized for making significant international contributions through his research, teaching and service activities in the field of water supply and sanitation with a focus on the world's poorest who live in small villages and communities in rural or remote regions.

In addition to teaching students at Stanford and at the BRAC University School of Public Health in Bangladesh, he also maintains an active research portfolio. His research projects are all focused in low income countries and strive to identify feasible strategies to improve the environment and health in high need settings.

Luby is best known for his work demonstrating the impact of hand washing on disease reduction in low income communities. His work has spanned the globe and his interdisciplinary approach has led to collaborations with entities such as the Center for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Government of Bangladesh and the U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit. Luby has authored more than 300 scientific articles and is the recipient of awards such as the 2009 Inaugural Oklahoma University International WaTER Prize.

For his global outreach and concern for marginalized people, Dr. Stephen Luby is a most deserving recipient of the 2016 School of Medicine Alumni Merit Award.