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| Dr Michael Connor - Image | **Dr Michael Connor**  Program Manager / Director  **Program Manager, Murdoch Executive Education**  **PhD (University of Melbourne)** |

Michael works closely with our facilitators and clients on the design of our programs and workshops, to help ensure their currency and relevance. Before joining Murdoch Executive Education, Michael was Assistant Professor in the division of Strategy, Management and Organization at Nanyang Business School (NBS) in Singapore, specialising in business and management communication. In addition to teaching and research, he was active in consulting and executive coaching for a variety of industries and corporations across the Asia-Pacific region. Clients included Bayer–Schering, Roche Diagnostics, CapitaLand, Keppel AmFELS, Singapore Ministry of Defence, Daimler Chrysler, Citibank, China Radio International, IBM Singapore, Heidrick & Struggles, Singapore Airlines Engineering Company, and United Overseas Bank. When he left Singapore, Michael was Communications Director for NBS’s Office for Executive Education, a role that saw him working with a variety of stakeholders in executive and professional development from the government, business and education sectors throughout the Asia-Pacific.

Before going to Singapore, Michael held positions as a lecturer at the University of Melbourne (where he earned his PhD), and at Deakin and Murdoch Universities. His background also includes roles as a professional editor, Communications Manager and Consultant, Client Manager, and Learning and Development Manager. Immediately prior to starting with the Murdoch Executive Education Centre, he was in a strategy and business development role for an international educational ICT company.

**Current Role**

As EEC’s program manager Michael is the main architect for the development of EEC’s programs and curriculum, in particular the two flagship programs, *Transitions: Leadership for Senior Executives* and *Management Masterclass*. He still occasionally takes the lead facilitator for both programs, integrating the concepts and ideas brought forward by the other facilitators to provide a clear narrative for participants to construct for themselves, question and apply. Michael also coaches participants on their Learning Application Proposal which is a crucial learning lynchpin for both programs.

Previous projects Michael has played key roles on include:

*Supervisory and People Management Skills Program, SIA Engineering Company*:  Michael was one of three Design Leaders on a professional development program for around 1100 managers, at supervisory, middle, and senior levels, rolled out over two years. Over three months, the facilitation team conducted focus groups, tailored programs for each of the three levels, and Michael was on the team that delivered 27 two-day training sessions, once or twice a month, for the supervisory levels. The focal points were change management, communication & feedback mechanisms, and “manager as coach.”

*Succession Planning and Professional Development Programs, United Overseas Bank*: Michael worked closely with the Program Director of this 3-year professional development program for senior management at section and division head levels. Apart from assisting with the design of the whole program, Dr Connor designed and delivered modules on *Change Management* and *Strategic Communication*. He also coached numerous individuals (at both middle and senior management levels) through a 360° feedback process (he is certified in the Lominger instrument), which involved them setting their own development agendas in the Bank’s specified business and management competencies, and action learning projects.