

Cultural Competency for Educational Leaders
Lee Mun Wah
Owner, StirFry Seminars and Consulting

As schools, workforces and communities continue to change, what are some of the new skills and new perspectives that will be needed to meet the challenges of a more diverse population? What are some of the fears about having to change?

In this unique workshop, participants will learn that cultural competency requires not only an awareness of cultural differences, but also cross-cultural communications skills, community development expertise, and an understanding of social issues and contexts.

Cultural Competency for Leaders provides a forum for participants to discover the conscious and unconscious ways in which racism permeates our attitudes and behaviors in the workplace and affects our relationships. Intimately powerful, this program is experientially based and designed to foster a deeper appreciation of our individual and cultural differences through personal stories, group exercises, and a variety of films and articles. Participants will receive handouts on how to successfully communicate cross-culturally as well as how to listen and respond effectively in stressful and conflictual situations involving diversity issues. Directly following the film showing, participants will engage in several exercises designed to increase awareness of differences and begin and sustain a conversation on diversity.

Learn:

- *Numerous ways to create a sense of community when confronted by a diverse population
- *How to mediate conflicts that are cultural in nature
- *How to ask meaningful and intimate questions of individuals from diverse cultures
- *How to listen/respond to personal experiences from a cultural perspective.

Lee Mun Wah believes that teaching skills to his audiences is essential to practicing diversity work. Throughout the seminar he points out different communication techniques and asks the audience to practice them throughout the session. In that way, when the participants finish his seminars, they have a vast array of applicable skills.