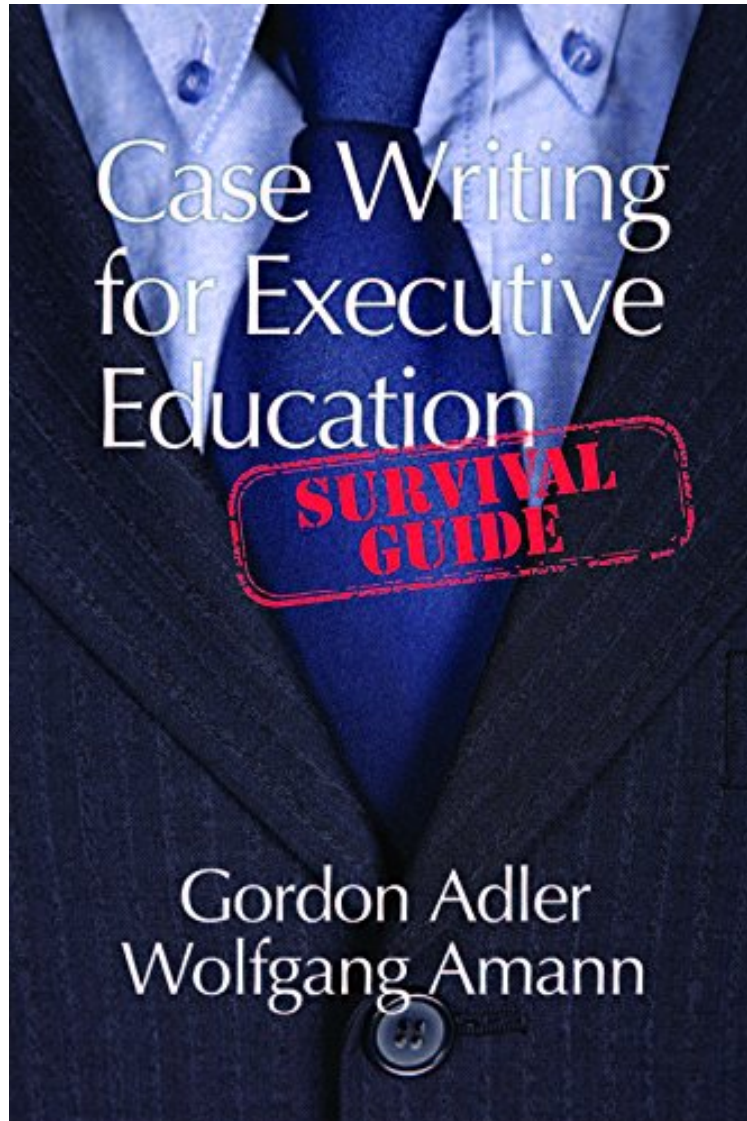


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Time and again, the authors have observed how a great program faculty creates unique learning experiences to everybody's satisfaction. They have experienced the pleasure that all involved feel when great learning has taken place, when the program participants leave the sessions with an enhanced skill set and co-created answers to pending

and future challenges. They are also aware that creating such moments of truth, involving the value proposition of business schools, corporate universities or other training institutions, has not been mastered everywhere. They have written this book to contribute to the ongoing professionalization of business education and aim to share some of the key lessons learned when creating unique learning experiences entailing learning that sticks. A great means to this end is using cases in executive education. While the variety of what can still be called a case is extremely wide, the authors by no means preach that cases are the only way forward. Like every tool, cases must be applied wisely and with a minimum amount of skill. There is also a bigger toolset available and there are also additional contextual factors to consider. They include teaching and learning traditions in different local settings. They comprise individuals' learning preferences. As the authors outline in this book, the case-based method nonetheless offers tremendous potential. The art and science of case writing are still known to too few of those involved in delivering executive education seminars.

About the Author Michael Pirson is a research fellow at the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations, Harvard University, and a lecturer at the Harvard Extension School.