

# ***UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE***

***BUS 1105-01 Business Communications - AY2024-T1***

***Written Assignment Unit 5***

***Instructor: Jeffrey Hathaway***

I am honored to welcome you today to discuss an initiative dear to me - our company's new STEM education program for underserved youth. The purpose of my speech is to inform and inspire you about this program's immense potential to equip young people with the tools to excel in our technological age.

***Thesis:*** By providing free, high-quality STEM education to disadvantaged students, our program cultivates diverse talent and expands economic opportunity. I invite our Saudi friends to join us in this mission.

***Key Point 1:*** STEM skills are the foundation of the 21st century economy. Computing jobs alone will grow 13% globally from 2023 to 2029. Yet insufficient access to STEM education blocks many young people from participating. Our program aims to bridge this gap.

***Key Point 2:*** We are delivering comprehensive STEM curricula - from coding and robotics to design thinking and app development - at community centers in underserved neighborhoods. Skilled instructors, technology resources, and hands-on learning empower students to shape technological innovations.

***Key Point 3:*** Since launching in 2019, our program has served over 5,000 students who have collectively logged over 35,000 instructional hours. Survey data show remarkable impact - 92% of students say the program increased their confidence with technology and interest in STEM careers. Many alumni now pursue STEM majors and internships.

***Research*** underscores the importance of early STEM education and the effectiveness of hands-on learning. One National Science Foundation study found students who engage in active STEM learning outperform their peers in STEM course grades by up to 28%. Our program applies these evidence-based best practices.

***Concluding statement:*** In Saudi Arabia, youth represent an immense reservoir of talent. To realize Saudi Vision 2030, investing in youth through STEM education is essential. I hope our program inspires ideas for how we might collaborate to empower the Kingdom's next generation. Please join me in this mission to cultivate our most valuable resource - human potential. Thank you.

I welcome your insights on equipping youth to thrive in the innovation's economy. Please enjoy your visit.

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