The School of Sustainability Founded by Israel Corp., ICL & ORL Cordially invites you

To a seminar with

Dr. Rina Sadia

On:

"Introduction to System Thinking – The Significance and Contribution to the Sustainability Discipline"

Thursday, January 23rd 2014, at 12:30
Room SL409, Radzyner-Sustainability Building, IDC Herzliya Campus

Lately, the concept of sustainability is becoming more prevalent in many countries. Corporations, universities, schools and governments promote researches in this field and encourage life-habit changes both in the individual’s life and in corporations. In order for the activities of this movement to bring about real solutions to the problems the world faces, the movement needs to embrace new and more advanced ways of thinking, in contrast to the common methods of thinking in the world today. The type of thinking necessary in revealing the wholeness of the system and its behavior over time and internalizing this insight to the life-habits of individuals and the public is called system thinking.

System thinking enables better understanding of complex dynamic systems which are conditioned by multiple feedbacks, time delays, accumulations and nonlinearities, and are generally overlooked. System thinking helps us design better policies for organizations and individuals, support their learning abilities, and catalyze the changes required to create a sustainable society in the technical, economic, social, political and personal aspects of life.

System thinking has its own “language” describing relationships using feedback loops models to visualize problems. Through this process system thinking is successfully absorbed in one’s mind and creates more willingness for real change.

With the progression of the system thinking discipline, several archetypes were built, describing models that repeat themselves in problems such as: ‘Limits to Growth’, ‘Shifting the Burden’ and ‘The Tragedy of the Commons’. Getting acquainted with these archetypes enhances one’s ability to identify sustainability problems in the environment and in one’s daily life.

The lecture will focus on the foundations of system thinking, tools for modeling complex problems, and archetypes relevant for sustainability.

Dr. Rina Sadia
lectures at Shenkar College of Engineering and Design