



One can already see the effects of global warming today and the outcome that our lifestyle has on our planet. I saw for example today a picture of a polar bear starving because of over-fishing thus taking away all its food from the region and that made me think of what I learned in the online-course that, we are actually living in the scenario that was painted up to us a few years ago that “Well, it is getting bad but fortunately we will see the effects of global warming and etc. in 10 years or so” which is a lie because we can see it now.

We should not think about sustainability in our future roles as engineers, we should be thinking about it now and doing something about it right now. I am currently involved in a project at Nordea which are implementing different actions for a sustainable work environment and reminding their employees to think about their daily choices in for example paper consumption and power usage. The same could be said at Gröna lund while I was working as a mechanic when it came to chemicals and waste handling. Having said that, I think that future engineers should do more and offer our future workplaces alternatives and perhaps start a “Sustainable workplace group” to really make an impact because the more that will join this type of work, the more actions will be taken.

The usage of renewable energy sources is the key for a power engineers to make an influence on the sustainability of the society. Everything from working with them in for example smart grids to choosing your power distributor or perhaps installing solar panels on your property but these technologies cannot make the changes by themselves. Yes, they exist and are super-duper great but we have to speak up in our societies, workplaces and in our communities to start implementing them. We also need to update our surroundings with information because I did not for example that there were different ways to measure a country’s well-being besides the BNP and that the death of algae on the ocean bottom creates an oxygen-free region which prevents life within the area.

People have a tendency to hang-on to old information that one has learned before college and even before high school, imagine a person calling Russia the Soviet Union for example. The same goes for the environment, old sayings and data needs to be replaced with new ones and understand the message “Do something, speak up”. This includes to have the courage to talk to your employer and not just sit there and just do everything that is asked from you. Do more and encourage them to think differently!

KTH should do more to prepare its students for the future regarding sustainability but also encourage their students to take more action and not just cave under a decision that will make a negative impact on the environment. I would actually hire a person telling me what I need to know instead of one telling me what I already know and just following my decisions if I had my own company and I would actually focus many of my resources on a sustainable community instead of just profit. A big profit does go hand-in-hand with wealth but so does the future survival of the human race and the planet as well. How can you enjoy your wealth if your home is destroyed? What would millions of dollars be worth when your days are numbered?

The on-line course should be implanted on as many universities as possible. I actually believe that the course will make an impact on a young student's life and start a chain thinking on sustainability thus being able to relate these delicate topics in future courses and life instead of in the end of a master programme. Just knowing that it is cheaper than one thought during the 80's to start making a transition to a more sustainable community will perhaps be enough to start making some changes today instead of thinking about it tomorrow.