

Forskningsstrategi i historia

Följande citat härrör från den internationella bedömargrupp som granskade historia (och engelska) i samband med utvärderingen av universitetets forskning 2013 (ARC13):

”Both disciplines have presented compelling visions and goals connected to concrete, realizable projects. Both have a good sense of their strengths and weaknesses and expressed a sense of excitement regarding their future developments.”

Det torde alltså stå klart att mycket litet av ytterligare dokumentation behövs när det gäller fastläggandet av historieämnets kurs för verksamheten under de kommande åren, utöver det omfattande arbete som nedlades i ARC13. Därmed har vi också deklarerat hur vi ser på relevansen av den här aktuella forskningsstrategin. Idén till denna procedur med forskningsplaner tycks emellertid emanera från universitetsledningen och inte fakultetsnämnden (Handlingsplan för implementering av Mittuniversitetets forskningsstrategi, Dnr MIUN 2014/2184).

I samband med remissförfarande vid framtagandet av fakultetens modell för fördelning av forskningsmedel ställde sig kollegiet i historia kritisk till tanken på framtagande av forskningsstrategier eller planer. Kollegiet ställde frågan, vilken aldrig besvarades, vilken roll dessa planer skulle spela i förhållande till de strategiska planer för lärosätets forskning som KK-stiftelsen vid något tillfälle efterfrågat.

Lärosätet började nämligen ett arbete med att bilda en så kallad KK-miljö 2008. NMT-fakulteten var snabb att observera de krav KK-stiftelsen ställde och började med det system som vi nu anammar, vilket synbarligen även vunnit universitetsledningens gillande. Systemet undergräver emellertid forskningens frihet, vilket framgår av de uppmaningar som ingår i underlaget för framtagande av forskningsstrategier – se nedan. Det faktum att HUV-fakulteten ograverat synes överta ett dokument som framtagits vid den andra fakulteten, kan möjligen tolkas som en brist på grundläggande entusiasm. Vill fakulteten informera sig om den forskning som bedrivs borde det vara enklare att dekanen återgår till sin gamla arbetsuppgift, nämligen att hålla utvecklingssamtal med professorerna i stället för att delegera dessa till i extremfallet odisputerade avdelningschefer. Fakultetsnämnden kan även bjuda in ämnesföreträdarna till forskningssamtal på samma sätt som avdelningscheferna på ett självklart sätt medverkar vid nämndens möten. De möten som fakultetsledningen håller med professorerna är otillräckliga.

I vår forskningsstrategi nedan tar vi oss rätten att presentera lämpliga citat ur ARC13. *Unit of Assessment* var den litet tungfotade benämningen på de ämnen och centrumbildningar som deltog i forskningsutvärderingen ARC13. I några fall kan uppgifter om äldre förhållanden dröjt sig kvar och vissa nyheter ännu inte influerat i framställningen. Kollegiet tröstar sig emellertid med att denna forskningsstrategi bör vara ett så kallat levande dokument, som kommer att bli föremål för revision under den kommande femårsperioden.

1. ”Inledning: Slagkraftigt parti som tydliggör strategin, det här är behoven, det här är miljön bra på, det här vill vi göra”.

Följande avsnitt i ARC13 under rubriken Final Remarks, s. 23, särskilt de avslutande raderna, kan med fördel placeras här:

"In Sum, the UoA is currently a rather small research environment, but consists of well experienced scholars who have high credentials within their respective fields of research. In relation to its volume, the UoA is productive in terms of publications and engagements in society, for example lectures at various societal institutions. Despite its relatively few doctoral students, the UoA produces on average one PhD per year, which is a sign that it is a well functioning research environment. As a sign of the UoA's quality of research it should be noticed that the scholars at the UoA have been successful in attracting external funding, especially from the prestigious national research councils (VR & RJ). The fact that the conducted research is varied can be considered as both a strength and a weakness. It can be a weakness in terms of synergy effects, and the possibilities of creating research groups that can attract large volumes of funding. Simultaneously, the varied research should be seen as a strength as the individual scholars can offer each other varied input on the conducted research, and when making the conducted research visible in education. The UoA is well aware of the possible problems that a too varied research focus could have. It is currently trying to develop and establish joint research profiles, as the scholars have the ambition to focus their work around a few coherent research areas."

2. "Omvärldsanalys – akademiska/vetenskapliga och samhällseliga utmaningar (3-5 st) med konkreta observationer ffa där det finns behov av ny kunskap"

Generellt skriver historiker ofta, för att inte säga alltid, med utgångspunkt från samtiden. Den som vill begrunda detta närmare uppmanas att ta del av historiografisk forskning. Vår tids stora utmaningar rör demokrati, miljö, fattigdom etc., och föga överraskande återfinns också bland annat den typen av frågeställningar hos våra forskare.

Samtidigt finns det skäl att inte glömma behovet av introspektion, klassisk källkritik samt strikt inomvetenskaplig diskussion, kort sagt till idogt arbete inom universitetets murar.

3. "Analys forskningsfronten – hur angriper den mest avancerade forskningen dessa utmaningar, konkreta observationer"

Historisk forskning, tillsammans med andra humanistiska discipliner, har på senare tid i ökad utsträckning vänt sig i riktning mot ny teknik, varvid något som digitala humaniora uppstått. Historiker kan numera arbeta i stora projekt tillsammans med mängder av andra discipliner, däribland naturvetenskapliga och tekniska. I själva verket är historisk kunskap något helt oundgängligt för att rätt kunna nalkas vår tids ödesfrågor.

4. "Prioriterade forskningsområden, baserat på punkt 2 & 3, presentera 1-3 forskningsinriktningar, inte för breda, samt forskningsinriktningar som inte är för breda samt frågeställningar inom dessa som behöver besvaras"
5. "Analys av forskargruppens centrals forskningsinriktningar – vilka styrkor och kompetenser finns idag, kopplat till inriktning under punkt 4"

Bägge punkterna behandlas gemensamt i texten nedan, vilken även återfinns i ARC13, s. 2-5:

"Current research at the UoA concerns two chronological time periods: early modern history (16th–18th century) and modern history (1850–). Even though the time periods vary, as well as source materials, there are sometimes common research questions or overlapping themes between the chronological categories of research, which enables collaborations and strengthens research at the UoA.

Early Modern History

Perspectives on state-building, exercises of discipline, and religiosity can be seen as overall themes for the research on early modern history. Much of the research focuses on questions concerning the balance of power between the state, the church, and the people.

Balances of power are analyzed within the field of military history, where Associate Professor Magnus Perlestam analyzes conditions for soldiers during the early 18th century. The research area includes perceptions of courage, obedience, and duty. Perlestam's research also targets questions about the different kinds of skirmishes that occurred during the Great Northern War, 1700–1721.

Questions concerning relations of power are also put into focus in Associate Professor Jan Samuelson's research on the nobility and other elite groups in Sweden and Finland during early modern history. Samuelson has, in a number of studies, analyzed the relations between estate owners, the clergy, and peasants, and he has shown how these relations were manifested at a local level. Due to his extensive knowledge in the field of early modern history – with a special focus on Sweden and Finland – Samuelson has been assigned by the Foundation of Ålandic Culture (Åländska kulturstiftelsen) to write a book about the history of the Åland Islands from 1500 to 1721.

Research on early modern history also includes Professor Emeritus Börje Harnesk's studies of relationships of power in local societies. Harnesk has shown how various forms of everyday resistance were used by the locals to express opinions to the different authorities, although they did not result in any form of outbursts or revolts. Harnesk's research thus complicates earlier images of a Swedish political culture based on discussions and compromises.

The project “Capillaries of the Sovereign State: Parish Clerks in Jämtland, Sweden, in the 17th Century” deals with questions about discipline exercises during the state-building process. In the project, Professor Per Sörlin analyzes the role that the parish clerks played vis-à-vis the state. Sörlin's research areas also cover questions about witchcraft, a theme on which he has written several books and articles, and which was conducted as part of a project funded by the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet, VR). It is also the theme of a project about causal relations between homicide and witchcraft in early modern Sweden.

Although the scholars working on early modern history are all part of the tenured staff, early modern history is an area that needs to be strengthened in order to reach the critical mass of research which is necessary to uphold quality and continuity. One way to empower this area of research would be to reserve one of the two faculty funded doctoral positions for this field.

Modern History

Research on modern history is primarily conducted within the fields of political and social history; more specifically, many of the research projects are focused on aspects of the industrialization process in Sweden. Although much of the research fits into this rather narrow description, a number of different analytical perspectives are employed, and the empirical studies vary.

Industrialization, Modernization, and Forestry: Aspects of Political Cultures

At the UoA, historical research on the industrialization process is mainly concerned with questions about the consequences of the modernization process at a local level. This has for example been analyzed by Professor Svenbjörn Kilander, who has studied this from the perspective of the early development of the tourism industry, which expanded in Jämtland during the late 19th century, where tourism became an example of the exploitation of

immaterial resources, such as clean air and unspoiled nature. Kilander's project was funded by the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, RJ), and resulted in the book *En nationalriktedom av hälsoskatter* (2008). Other examples of local studies of industrialization and modernization processes are Professor Emeritus Börje Harnesk's and PhD Stefan Dalin's project "Småstadsdemokrati? Reform, valdeltagande och lokalpolitisk kultur ca 1750–1919" ["Small Town Democracy? Reforms, Elections, and Urban Political Culture, ca 1750–1900"] – funded by The Swedish Research Council (VR) – which focuses on the municipal voting reform of 1862, and PhD Erik Nydahl's analysis of political culture and political participation in two municipalities 1850–1930.

Kilander and Nydahl have recently sent a joint research application to the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (RJ). This new project targets questions about modernization processes, with a special focus on the exploitation of natural resources and forestry. The project builds on earlier research by Kilander, mentioned above. The project by Kilander and Nydahl has also been the basis for an expanded research application on the same theme. This application is pending decision from the Swedish Research Council FORMAS, and in addition to the project by Kilander and Nydahl, this project involves an additional two researchers (Assistant Professor Tomas Berglund and PhD Stefan Dalin). In 2013, a doctoral student (Anna Stjernström) was recruited to the group, and her dissertation is expected in 2018. This larger research project will analyze changes in the view of the forest and its value, as the debate passed from a national ideological level to a local pragmatic/practical level. The overall aim is to offer new perspectives on the industrialization and modernization process of Sweden, but also to produce knowledge relevant to current Swedish forest policy (see also A3.1).

Power, Socialization, and Citizenship

Modern history research also involves questions about power and citizenship. This theme includes a number of studies, all offering different perspectives and ways of analyzing the problem. Professor Roland Anrup has, in a number of studies, investigated various forms of power and authorities, particularly in Latin America. By studying social relations, religious symbolism, and social movements, Anrup has provided new insights into the role symbolic expressions of power play in wider processes of change. Power and social relations are also the focus of doctoral student Petra Bäckström's dissertation project. Bäckström applies an intersectionality perspective when analyzing women's space for political action during the first half of the 20th century. Her empirical object of study is civic associations.

Questions about socialization processes and power structures are present in a number of research projects at the UoA. Assistant Professor Tomas Berglund is researching perspectives of parenthood, both from the perspective of parents and that of society. The theme also includes two doctoral projects: Glenn Svedin's analysis of the changing patterns of crime and control during the modernization process, and Johanna Aurell's study of perceptions of normality in psychiatric research and at mental institutions during the 20th century.

The research area also includes the theme of citizenship from the perspective of minorities. Assistant Professor Per Hammarström's project "Integration genom dop? Judiska konvertiter i Sverige 1782–1870" ["Integration through Baptism? Jewish Converts in Sweden 1782–1870"] raises questions about the underlying motives for conversion, and how the Jewish community related to these conversions. Hammarström's project is funded by a research grant from the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (RJ).

Political Communication

Amongst the researchers of modern political history, a special focus has been put on media history and rhetorical perspectives of political processes. This research involves Associate Professor Jonas Harvard, who has analyzed usages of concepts such as opinion and parliamentarism, and – in a project funded by the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (RJ) – investigated media structures and political decision making in the Nordic region. PhD Anna Friberg's dissertation project, completed in March 2013, also focused on concepts in political decision making, and investigated the uses of the concept of democracy in Social Democratic debates on ideology and welfare reforms.

History Didactics

History didactic research is a field that continues to grow in historical research. At the UoA, two doctoral dissertations have been written in the field: by Assistant Professor Per Fransson, and by PhD Martin Karlsson. Fransson's research shows how textbooks, that were produced around the turn of the 20th century, portrayed Sweden as a totality of differentiated parts, i.e. distinctive local characters, and Fransson analyzes this in relation to ideas about integration, and a new conception of historical education. Karlsson's dissertation is perhaps the only study, this far, that thoroughly analyzes how history has been used and portrayed in educational films during an extensive time period. Therefore, Karlsson's research has been ground breaking within the field of analyses of historical films. Another important resource for the history didactic research is Sven Olofsson, who holds a PhD in History from Uppsala University. Olofsson works in close collaboration with secondary schools in the Jämtland and Västernorrland regions, and has good connections to the history teachers at these schools. This may prove important when future history didactic projects are constructed."

6. "Vision för forskningsmiljön på lång sikt – hur skall vi positionera oss nationellt och internationellt, utveckla befintliga styrkor och etablera nya. Fokusera på profilering inom nisch" (sic)

Följande högeligen relevanta avsnitt återfinns i ARC13, s. 21-23

"The UoA has identified two main areas to develop for the future: "Modernization, Industrialization, and Forestry" and "Normalization, Discipline, and Violence". These are fields in which the main part of researchers currently are active in, but in individual projects. Even though History as a discipline traditionally employs individual researchers, there are advantages in creating a relatively small number of coherent areas of research. The fact that the UoA's scholars are already conducting research within these fields makes it reasonable to assume that the UoA has good foundations for their further elaboration. However, the UoA is in need of funding in order to build a strong research environment. This concerns both the ability to attract external researchers, and to create cooperations with other universities. In some cases the UoA aims to be the creator of a national consortium, and thus put the UoA at the centre of this theme of research.

Modernization, Industrialization, and Forestry

Research conducted within this profile aims to offer new perspectives on the modernization process in Sweden, by analyzing the remodeling of local communities. The modernization of Swedish society was closely connected to the exploitation of natural resources, in particular the forest. As the international demand for wood and wooden goods increased dramatically during the mid-19th century, an intensive development of previously untouched forests in the inland of Norrland began – as timber and wood were transformed into significant financial assets. The economic value of the forest would soon reach levels that could not even have been dreamt of before. This development would become the start of a journey that would take

Sweden to the top of developed industrial nations. The process involved agents such as forest farmers, woodsmen, saw millers, and the many employees of industry. Later, the process would also include politicians and different interest groups. In sum, this research profile focuses on the forest as a resource, the industrialization of the inland of Norrland, and the impact this process had on local communities that were drawn into the modernization process. Within the project, a number of different perspectives are included: from economic-historical questions about ownership and structures of ownership, entrepreneurship, and local politics, to relations within local communities, as well as ideas related to nature and the symbolism of the forest as a national symbol.

Through its close connection to research on forestry, this profile offers a humanistic and community-related dimension to one of Mid Sweden University's overall industrial research themes, i.e. "Skogen som resurs" ["Forest"]. There are also connections to the overall research profile "Entreprenörskap och företagsutveckling" ["Entrepreneurship and Business Development"]. However, it should be noted that this profile will deal with questions concerning social-historical developments rather than the development of businesses from a historical perspective only.

Currently, the prospects for external funding are carefully optimistic. The project has passed the first round of reviews by the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (RJ) in 2013. In addition, an application has been sent to the Swedish Research Council FORMAS along with supporting testimonials from the forest industry concerning the value of this research.

At the moment there are five historians connected to the profile: Professor Svenbjörn Kilander, Assistant Professor Tomas Berglund, PhD Stefan Dalin, PhD Erik Nydahl, and the doctoral student Anna Stjernström who joined the group in 2013. The group has a number of connections with researchers at other universities. These researchers are not only historians, but also researchers in Swedish and English literary studies. These scholars are focused on issues of modernism and the writers of Norrland during the time period in question, as well as issues of green humanities. There are also connections to researchers who deal with Entrepreneurship, Business Administration, and Political Science.

In order to strengthen research at the UoA in relation to future challenges and demands, it is necessary to establish new ways of collaborating outside the traditional field of Humanities. To achieve this, a prioritized field of research that can offer a clear profile must be developed. Such a profile has to be able to permeate both education and research, and it must integrate these parts. The profile "Modernization, Industrialization, and Forestry" has the potential to meet all these requirements.

Normalization, Discipline, and Violence

The profile "Normalization, Discipline, and Violence" should be considered as a possible interdisciplinary research project at Mid Sweden University.

The profile is based on specialties among the current researchers, especially those working with the early modern period. A number of previous projects have dealt with power relations and violence in society, related to the defense and breach of norms. Areas where this has been investigated have concerned armed and civil revolts against the sovereignty and the monopoly of violence of the state in Latin America (Professor Roland Anrup), definitions of normality and health in mental care (Johanna Aurell, ongoing PhD project), conceptions of manhood (Assistant Professor Tomas Berglund), media representations of crime (Associate Professor Jonas Harvard), norms in military organizations and concepts of loyalty (Associate Professor

Magnus Perlestad), religious norms as the basis for political appointments and early modern power relations (Associate Professor Jan Samuelson), studies of crime patterns and economic change (Glenn Svedin, ongoing PhD project), and witchcraft and early modern criminality (Professor Per Sörlin).

The profile is based on a perspective of studying humans as social beings, and on invoking perspectives of the social sciences by focusing on man's role in the construction of societies, and the structural systems of control. Social norms are embedded in social relations since childhood, and – as they amalgamate into larger cultural patterns – the social norms become institutionalized and part of societal power structures. As the structures grow more complicated, socialization processes, measures for rectification, and various forms of punishment become more central in processes of disciplination.

Investigating visible breaches of societal norms alongside patterns of violence, crime, and gender roles from a long-term perspective will provide new knowledge of value, not only to the historical research community, but also to the relation between generic or universal societal norms, and those particular to each time. The results will be of value to education in Criminology, societal institutions, and could possibly serve as the basis for a large scale international research project – based on Nordic collaborations, geared at securing funding from for example upcoming EU Horizon 2020 calls on the theme “Inclusive and Secure Societies” – as well as numerous smaller grants. In addition to these, it could be expected that individual scholars continue to be successful in calls from the national research councils.

The processes that are analyzed within the profile “Normalization, Discipline, and Violence” address theoretical problems regarding socialization and discipline related to the historical processes of democratization and modernization, and enable collaboration with researchers from the social sciences, e.g. Psychology, Sociology, and Political Science. One overarching objective would be to gain a deeper understanding of questions such as the weight of freedom and the human condemnation to be free.”

7. ”Mål på kort och lång sikt – vad vill vi konkret uppnå som visar att vi närmar oss visionen? Vilka delmål finns?”

Nedanstående avsnitt ur ARC13, s. 20-21, motsvarar åtminstone i viss mån vad som efterfrågas i denna punkt. Flera av de mål som vi föresatt oss att uppfylla är också det: Ett stort av RJ finansierat forskningsprojekt har erhållits inom ”Skogen”, en kvinnlig post dok har rekryterats, tre nya doktorander varav två kvinnor har anställts, en nyrekrytering av professor sker, där eventuellt en kvinna alltså kommer att hamna i en senior position, frikostiga stöd för lektors forskning har utdelats till följd av vår egen hantering av fakultetsanslaget:

“Actions to Improve the Quality of Research

A number of measures can of course be taken in order to improve the quality of research. The UoA has, as already stated, started the process of creating research profiles in order to form more coherent lines of research. The establishment of joint research seminars, together with scholars from the social sciences, would strengthen the scientific environment at Mid Sweden University in general, but also give the researchers at the UoA a forum to discuss future collaborations outside the UoA. Input from other scholars is always desirable in the research process. In order to secure this further, the opportunities to offer positions as visiting scholars at the UoA should be expanded, as well as the opportunities for researchers at the UoA to visit other universities. To assist the scholars aiming for international publications, a translation fund should be established. This way, researchers would not have to take the financial risk of translating their work into a foreign language.

Even though the quality of research is always important, currently, the most crucial aspect of research at the UoA concerns quantity. It is of utmost importance to increase the volume of research conducted at the UoA. This can be done by recruiting more doctoral students, giving research funding to all tenured personnel, but also by demanding that all employees – holding a position that includes research – present the results of their research at the UoA's seminars, either as articles or as chapters in a proposed monograph.

Opportunities and Abilities

Recruiting Qualified Staff and PhD Students. Grade: 6

The UoA has not needed to recruit any tenure staff for lecturing during the time period in question. This, of course, makes grading problematic. However, if taking the recruitment of PhD students as the point of reference, recruiting looks very good in terms of competitiveness. The UoA has been able to attract a high number of applicants (in average 15 applicants per position) each time a doctoral position has been advertised, and the UoA has been able to produce on average one PhD per year.

Attracting External Research Funding. Grade: 6

During the time period in question, the UoA has been very successful in attracting external research funding. Keeping in mind that History is a discipline within the Humanities, the percentage (12–27 %, see table B1.2.2) of externally funded projects can only be considered as a solid achievement of the UoA. It should also be noted that a substantial share of the awarded grants are given from the two large national research councils – the Swedish Research Council (VR) & the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences (RJ – who only fund around 5–8 % of received applications, something that should be interpreted as a sign of quality of the research conducted at the UoA.

The International Positioning of the UoA. Grade: 4

Given the assumption that it is easier for an academic unit that conducts research within a joint narrow field to achieve a stronger international position than one without any clear profile, the international positioning of the UoA is perhaps not very strong. One might assume that lack of a mutual research focus would prevent the UoA from having any impact on the international research community, but the individual researchers at the UoA are well established scholars within their respective fields of research; they are invited to other universities, both to teach and to conduct research. Thus, as individuals, the researchers at the UoA have a good international position, perhaps giving the UoA a higher score than average. It should be noted that History traditionally is a nationally focused research discipline, and the research conducted at the UoA is well in line with the traditions of the field.”

8. ”Indikatorer för mål – Personal, publiceringar, citeringar, genomslag, externa medel, samarbeten etc. Nuläge och mål”

Jämte den ambitiösa redovisningen som redovisats i ARC13 avseende perioden 2007-2012, har fakulteten numera, i tidens anda, egna system för så kallad uppföljning och kontroll vars data vi räknar med att integrera i vår forskningsplan.

En uppdaterad redovisning avseende jämställdhet inom ämnet har efterfrågats. Bland doktoranderna har två kvinnor nyrekryterats samt en kvinna som post dok. Professorstjänsten som är under tillsättning har lockat två kvinnliga sökanden bland totalt åtta sökande.

Tilläggas skall att frågan om ökad jämställdhet i termer av fler kvinnliga lärare och forskare kompliceras till följd av okontrollerade inlasningar i ämnet, vilket vi, ännu så länge med begränsad framgång, försökt uppmärksamma.

9. ”Vad krävs för att nå målen? Här även finansieringsplan och publiceringsplan”

Fakultetsnämnden har särskilt efterfrågat en publiceringsstrategi. Eller rättare sagt, formuleringar om att dylika skall utarbetas emanerar från universitetsledningen (Handlingsplan för implementering av Mittuniversitetets forskningsstrategi, Dnr MIUN 2014/2184). Inom ämnet stimulerar forskarkollegiet publicering av våra forskningsresultat på olika sätt genom att lägga resurser på översättning, publiceringsstöd etc.

10. ”Partners och samarbeten – vilka samhällseliga (eller andra partners) behövs för att nå målen?”

Vi behöver seriösa forskningsfinansiärer. Därutöver sker viss samverkan med andra externa partners, och det kommer vi att fortsätta med.

11. ”Arbetsprocess och ledning. Hur hänger strategiarbete och genomförande ihop? Hur vill vi arbeta med en successiv utveckling och uppdatering av vision och mål? Hur får vi med aspekter som nyttiggörande och relevans för samhället?”

Frågor som uppenbarligen söker sitt svar, men inte i nämnvärd utsträckning bland fakultetens historiker.

På forskarkollegiets vägnar,

Per Sörlin, tf. ämnesföreläsare

2017-12-31

God forskningssed

inom historieämnet vid Mittuniversitet

Forskning inom historieämnet vid Mittuniversitet är vanligtvis grundforskning, där källmaterialet utgörs av äldre historiska texter, från medeltiden till tidigt 1900-tal.¹ I marginell utsträckning riskerar våra forskare att kränka eller skada de personer som figurerar i källorna. Våra krav på forskning rimmar överlag väl med Merton Cudes fyra principer; "communism", "universalism", "disinterestedness" och "organized scepticism".² Slutmålet är alltid att publicera våra texter och ge andra forskare och samhället i övrigt en möjlighet att ta del av och kritisera resultaten. Våra forskningsresultat bedöms primärt utifrån vetenskapliga kriterier, även om resultatens signifikans givetvis även styrs av utomvetenskapliga faktorer såsom dess samhälleliga relevans. Motiven för vår forskning är överlag att bidra med ny kunskap. Våra finansiärer har inte heller något direkt intresse av våra resultat. Även våra forskningssamarbeten är oproblematiska ur ett etiskt perspektiv, då de vanligtvis sker mellan jämbördiga (disputerade) med tydligt avgränsade fält. Någon dokumentation av källdata är vanligtvis inte heller nödvändig, då källorna i flertalet fall hämtas från offentliga arkiv. Om man med "material" från ett avslutat forskningsprojekt³ även inkluderar statistiska beräkningar och bearbetningar av källdata finns dock onekligen en förbättringspotential. Jag vill

¹ Se vidare den distinktion som görs mellan grundforskning och tillämpad forskning i *God forskningssed*, av Vetenskapsrådet, 2017, s. 19.

² A.a., s. 13.

³ A.a., s. 42.

på denna punkt initiera en dialog med fakulteten hur vi här skall förbättra oss.

Överlag sker alltså nuvarande forskning inom historieämnet vid Mittuniversitet inom de ramar för vad Vetenskapsrådet (i medskickad folder) beskriver som en god forskningssed. Inom samtidsorienterad och historiedidaktisk forskning är de forskningsetiska problemen dock mer accentuerade. Antalet yrkesverksamma historiker vid Mittuniversitet inom dessa fält är på uppgående, även om de fortfarande utgör en klar minoritet. Bland våra samtidshistoriker är den gängse praktiken för att undvika kränkningar av människor som figurerar i källmaterialet (i text eller intervjuer), att avidentifiera och anonymisera dem.⁴

Det är för tidigt att redovisa hur vi hanterar de forskningsetiska frågor som berör forskning inom det historiedidaktiska fältet, denna forskning är hos oss ännu i sin linda. Vårens (2018) anställning av en lektor med ämnesdidaktisk kompetens kommer dock att utgöra startskottet för en sådan diskussion. En fråga som här kommer att behandlas är behovet av etikprövningar för framtida doktorandprojekt. Denna fråga kommer att diskuteras under det kommande året och en representant för Mittuniversitets forskningsetiska kommitté kommer att bjudas in till forskarkollegiet i historia för att informera om etikprövningar och om handledarnas ansvar för att detta genomförs.

⁴ se vidare a.a., s. 40.