Lördagen den 8 december försvarar Johanna Lidén sin avhandling i religionshistoria, "The Taizhou Movement: Being Mindful in Sixteenth Century China."

Opponent är professor Joachim Gentz från University of Edinburgh.

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The aim of this thesis is to define and analyze the religious ideas, praxis and organizations of the Taizhou movement using the earliest sources from the Ming dynasty. The Taizhou movement originated with a salt merchant named Wang Gen (1483–1541), who became a disciple of the well-known Neo-Confucian philosopher Wang Yangming (1472–1529). Wang Gen’s thoughts were similar to his, but Wang Gen’s ideas about protecting and respecting the self were new. These ideas and the pursuit of making one’s mind calm inspired his followers who, like Wang Gen, tried to put them into practice.