



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
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Establishing a Book Nook at the Merensky 2 Library

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9 June 2022

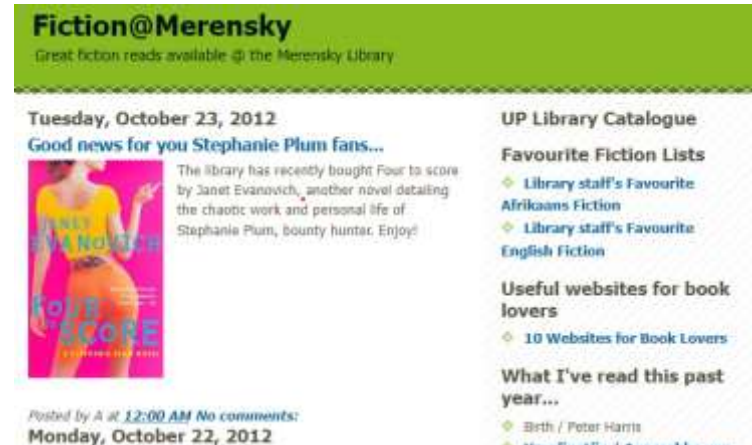
Background

- Always support leisure reading as a habit to develop
- In 2008 Libraries 2.0 was a buzzword
- Past ventures: Wiki list of staff favourites, Glogster, and Blog
- Collection development policy discussions, budgets set aside for fiction, incorporating fiction in collection, and #FictionFriday Facebook posts
- Offerings tailored for preferences of younger users: #UPisLit 1-minute book reviews and InstaNovels

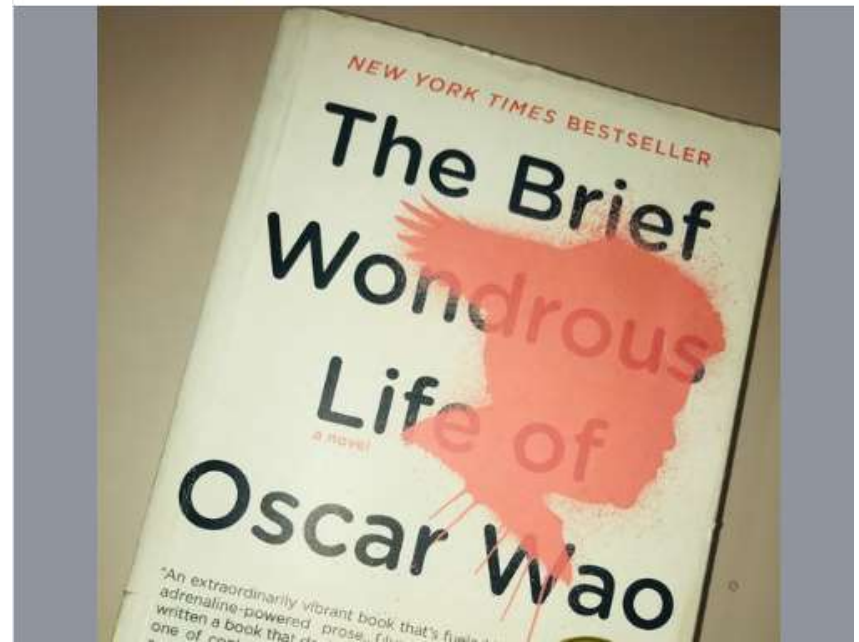
Past ventures, prior to the Book Nook



<https://edu.glogster.com/>



<http://fictionmerensky.blogspot.com/>



Fiction Friday posts on FB

Mind-Altering Books event (September 2019)

- September 2019: UP Humanities Faculty centenary celebrations
- 100 Mind-Altering Books event to coincide with National Book Week & International Literacy Day
- Online survey to Humanities academics about their 100 most Mind-Altering books
- Month-long whiteboard capturing of student preferences
- Remarkable interest amongst both groups
- Request from Humanities Faculty for reading corner in library

Match the Brain 2019 & MAB 2021

Match the Brain 2019



Which one book in particular blew which academic's mind? Match one book title to each person. Prizes to be won!

	Prof Reddy	Prof Brown	Prof Zondi	Prof Africa	Prof Praag	Dr Broodryk	Dr Patheer	None
The Prince by Niccolò Machiavelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
History of Sexuality (volume 1) by Foucault	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Half a Yellow Sun by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
What Good are the Arts? by John Carey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earthsea by Ursula Le Guin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dune by Frank Herbert	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In My Father's House by Kame Anthony Appiah	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amal'ezulu by B.W. Mlekazi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remembrance of Things Past by Proust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet by William Shakespeare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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<https://tinyurl.com/2p9h58cv>

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR ANNUAL MIND-ALTERING BOOKS WEBINAR 2021!

Match the Brain competition 2021" winners

1st: Angela Ndweni
2nd: Taneil Thompson
3rd: Lilla Angelova



UP Library Services

9 September 2021 · 🌐



Thank you to everyone who attended our 2021 Mind-Altering Books Webinar, not least of all our fantastic presenters! 📖 🙌

ICYMI: You can check out a recording of the 2021 Mind-Altering Books Webinar, at https://youtu.be/1_qxJGP_EgE



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Top 10 Mind-Altering Books Sept 2019 students

Title	Author	Votes	F/NF
The Alchemist	Coelho, Paulo	9	F
Things fall apart	Achebe, Chinua	6	F
The Bible		5	NF
The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck	Mark Manson	4	NF
Animal farm: a fairy story	Orwell, George	3	F
Capitalist Nigger: the road to success	Onyeani, Chika	3	NF
I write what I Like	Biko, Steve	3	NF
Angels and Demons	Brown, Dan	2	F
Attibility: attitude and ability	Grobler, Andre	2	NF
Buckingham Palace, District Six	Richard Rive	2	F



Why?

Reading for leisure is linked to:

- **Reduced stress, increased mental wellness** (Levine, et al. 2022. For the Love of Reading: Recreational Reading Reduces Psychological Distress in College Students and Autonomous Motivation Is the Key).
- **Improved reading comprehension and reading speed** (Torppa, et al. 2020. Leisure Reading (but Not Any Kind) and Reading Comprehension Support Each Other - A Longitudinal Study Across Grades 1 and 9).
- (Boakye, 2017. Extensive Reading in a Tertiary Reading Programme: Students' Accounts of Affective and Cognitive Benefits).
- **Better academic performance** (National Endowment for the Arts. 2007. To read or not to read: A question of national consequence. <https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/ToRead.pdf>).

Why?

UP DLS Strategic Directions and Priorities:

- Enrich student experience and learning
- Enhance an environment conducive to research, learning and working
- Provide collections and content that accelerate learning and research
- Prioritise the welfare and wellness of staff and students
- Strategic Partnering and Collaboration

Why?

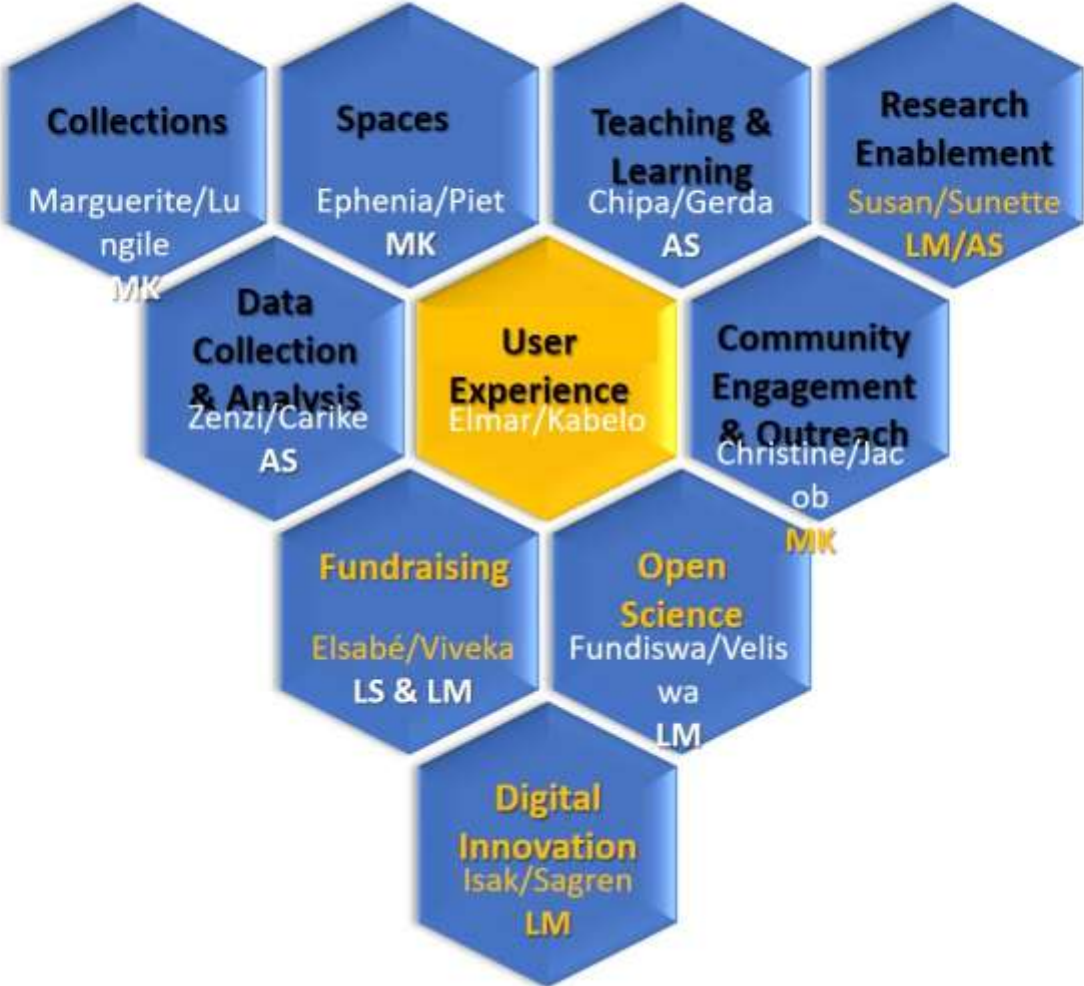
National Reading Coalition (launched 2019)

- Minister Angie Motshekga at NRC launch, 15 Feb 2019:
- “One of the greatest challenges facing South Africa’s basic education today is an inability of our learners to read for meaning”.... “situation on reading for comprehension is precarious”.... “national emergency”.

Source: <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-angie-motshekga-launch-national-reading-coalition-15-feb-2019-0000>

Why?

DLS Strategic Focus areas



Why?

5IR

4 th Industrial Revolution	5 th Industrial Revolution
Digitalisation	Personalisation
Start of the 21 st century	2 nd decade of the 21 st century
AI, robotics, IoT, blockchain and crypto.	Innovation purpose and inclusivity.
Robotics, artificial intelligence, augmented reality, virtual reality	Deep, multi-level cooperation between people and machines. Consciousness.

Source: www.regenesys.net



How

- Politically, the right moment
- Collaboration – Faculty of Humanities, UP Facilities, Future Africa and DLS Spaces drivers and Exco
- No Budget, but some creative plans were made
- Furniture: mobile, comfortable, yet inviting; promotes quiet reading
- Book titles: student and staff input, variety of topics, NF and F. Included religion, popular science, self-help books, topics
- Enthusiasm from academics: donations of books towards Book Nook

Future plans

- Roll out Book Nook concept to other branches!
- Fund-raising proposal document almost ready.
- Short term: stock Book Nook appropriately and market material; obtain feedback from users to ensure satisfaction
- Medium term: Events in the Book Nook on a regular basis, for example: “Let us Love Poetry together” event to celebrate World Book Day on Friday 22 April 2022.
- Long term: to foster a culture of reading, wellness and success.

Thank you!



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