

**School of Education
Community Engagement**

..... Presents

**CREATIVE NETWORK
MAGAZINE**

About This Volume

**Students and Staff from ALL universities and members of the general public were invited to:
'Write about their current experiences in a creative way - a story, lyrics, poem, drawing etc...
including how learning can take place during this time'.**

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I'm poep bang to die

by

Professor Kriben Pillay

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I'm poep bang to die,
But I've never asked,
Who, what, am I?
Am I the body,
But which part, really?
Am I the mind?
But it's something
I cannot find.
So I'm poep bang to die,
But I don't know who am I.
That's why Corona is messing
With my head,
Like it won't stop
Until I'm dead.
I'm poep bang to die,
It's time to ask why,
Why cry and rue,
Corona se ma se...

**INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING
A CREATIVE PIECE**

Submit your piece to any team member by e-mail or WhatsApp by Wednesday of every week.

SUBMIT - PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO THE EDITORS TO PUBLISH MY CREATIVE WORK IN THE MAGAZINE.

Strong hurting heart

by

Bulelani Chiya

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Life without you is nothing.
Life without love is not perfect
and life was meant to be perfect.
You loved me and let your son die
so now I know I'm worth it all.
You risked it all.
You risked your only joy.
I'm sorry, I am happy
because of all these toys.
I'm sorry for all these choices.
I'm sorry for driving myself.
Because I know not what I do
I'm speeding towards death.
Pressing the prince of peace
because he is my brakes.
I hurt his heart still he never breaks,
but I know he feels the pain.
I know his heart aches!

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WRITING EXAMS IN THE Republic of South Africa

by

Margaret Hirsch- Executive Director

(Philanthropist and Champion of Women's Empowerment in Africa)

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I was writing my finals for my MBA and living in my flat in the suburbs of Johannesburg. Two of our subjects were combined into one massive exam and it was going to be a five hour exam. I was busy studying, when a friend phoned from Australia and we were chatting. I stated that I could not complain about a thing, I love this country- the electricity is working, the water is working, and the Wi-Fi is working. Those were fatal words and with that there was a bang, Load shedding!

We had no electricity, but I wasn't worried because we had a generator. So, the generator kicked it, and everything was fine - for a while.

I then went to the tap to get a drink of water and then, oh my goodness there was no water. I looked out the window and I saw that there was a broken pipe and water was literally pouring down the road. I tried to phone the water department, but at 10 pm there was no hope!! I thought I would just continue on my Wi-Fi and with that the generator ran out of petrol, the Wi-Fi switched off and I was plunged into darkness with no water, no electricity and no Wi-Fi, which was the worst of all.

Well, I thought, maybe this was a sign from above that I should have an early night's sleep because I was to write my exam the next day.

I woke up early the next morning only to realise that there was still no water. Luckily there is a stream that runs downstairs in our basement, but due to the electricity being off, the pumps were not working, and the basement was completely flooded. So, I went downstairs, managed to get some water into a bucket, walk up two flights of stairs to my gas hob. Oh, my goodness - no matches and it's an electric ignition! Searched around in the dark and managed to find a lighter I had been lucky enough to get out of a Christmas cracker last year. I could heat the water up, wash up and get ready.

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I had to have candles everywhere, there was no electricity. I dressed, got my books together, packed my bag and there I was ready to go only to realise that I have electric doors and electric garage doors, so I just could not get out.

We have all seen it in the movies, so I decided to string my sheets together – tied the end to my lounge suite and decided to lower myself down from the second floor. I was going to climb out the window and jump onto the roof of the generator outside and then jump from that two metres onto the floor.

Thank goodness, as I started to do that one of the girls who has keys for downstairs came in and she manually opened the door. So, I went downstairs through the flooded basement and still managed to get to Regent Business School on time to write my exams. So, it goes to show perseverance is the key. I could have easily given up and stayed at home but the thought of writing a sup. later in the year was too horrific to even imagine!

To all those who are reading this, my message to you is to just keep on going. No matter what life throws at you, no electricity, no water, no Wi-Fi, just keep going and know that if you just keep working in the direction of your dreams, you will get there in the end and if you are not there, it's not the end yet.



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HIRSCH'S





If I could...

by

Nicolene Butler

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If I could change a few things in this world,
I would change sadness into happiness,
I would change the sorrow into joy,
I would change tears into laughter,
I would change suffering into comfort,
I would change hatred into love,
I would change captivity into freedom,
I would turn poverty into wealth,
I would turn the ugly into beauty,
If I could...

I would change this world into a place where love will speak the language of acceptance,
No expectations...

Just gratitude, because life is too short for regrets!

EDITORS IN CONVERSATION - Creative Network Magazine AND Futuro do Pretérito Magazine

by

Millena Miranda Franco

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On Saturday, 24th October, 2020, we the Futuro do Pretérito magazine's student editors (Brazil) met with Creative Network Magazine's student editors, from UKZN (South Africa), in order to discuss the action and formative impact that our publications have promoted in the communities, internally and externally, intertwined to both universities, and on what current limitations and potentialities we could reflect to enhance the common roles between this two magazines: promoting Community Engagement and Media and Information Literacy.

This dialogue was part of the activity map of UNESCO's Global Media and Information Literacy Week, 2020 (Global Week Media Literacy and Information UNESCO 2020) and was attended by some of the following participants: Futuro do Pretérito magazine's student-editors (Beatriz Hitos, Fabiana Godioso, Julianna Osteti, Millena Miranda Franco and Nathalia Pinheiro), Creative Network Magazine's student-editor (Phakamile Mazibuko), Ph.D. Angela James (coordinator of the South African magazine) and Ph.D. Agnaldo Arroio (FEUSP).

The meeting provided the possibility to share the challenges of distributing our publications, including illiteracy, the difficulty of accessing the internet and linguistic barriers related to the level of media and information literacy of the two communities that read and interact with the magazine's students (some subjects which concern our target readers, writers, participants and designers), staff and the communities – civil society.

As a balance for the Futuro do Pretérito magazine, we reflected on the need to foster Community Engagement beyond the academics, strengthen the ties of international cooperation with the student editors of Creative Network Magazine and keep a welcoming and courageous editorial approach.

We, students-publishers-Brazilian-feuspian, are very grateful for the possibility of intercultural exchange and for the formative and creative impact that the South-South connection has supported, sponsored and promoted.

The event record can be found on the Global Activity Map - http://www.gmil2020.com/2020_en/e1.php?s=61

AFTERLAND - A NOVEL

by

LAUREN BEUKES

Reviewed by Dr. Betty Govinden

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In this interesting novel – *AFTERLAND* - by award-winning South African novelist, Lauren Beukes, we are in a world without men! A devastating virus – Human Culgoa Virus – has wiped out 99% of the world's male population.

This situation has all sorts of consequences. The commodification of the bodies of men - given that they are now become so rare – mirrors what happens generally to women.

A mother and son are at the centre of the novel, and their lives are marked by a frenetic road trip through a rather dystopic world, filled with trauma and tension.

The novel was completed last year, before the global pandemic of COVID-19, but is seen as uncannily foreshadowing it.

AFTERLAND is published in 2020, by Penguin Books.

ENGAGING WITH SWARTDAM FARMERS

by

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Our normal primary animal health outreach projects in Makapanstad and Ratjiespan were not reaching all our farmers and having the desired impact we had hoped for. In consultation with Dr Rebone Moerane, the Head of Department for Production Animal Studies, we went back to the drawing board trying to find ways we can better serve and educate the farmers on primary animal health care issues. We then came up with an idea of combining our normal outreach projects with additional animal interventions comprising mainly of vaccinations, information and discussions sessions with local farmers. The purpose of which was to improve on the coverage of clients serviced and the effectiveness of the outreach programme thereby exposing the students to more hands-on learning and preparing them for their Compulsory Community Service (CCS).



Our days started early with a 48km drive to Swartdam in order to reach the dip tanks by 06h00 where hundreds of cattle had converged. Together with the dipping foreman and the Animal Health Technician of the area, Mr Maime we set out to see if the cattle races were in working order, fixing what we could and taking inventory of the drugs we had versus the number of animals that had turned up.

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After a short demonstration on how to properly vaccinate cattle and on how to mark and identify them using ear tags and notches, the students quickly took over the operation. Their ability to learn quickly and a strong work ethic allowed us to vaccinate all the animals, within a few hours. Animals that had other basic ailments, like pink eye and traumatic injuries were also treated on the spot.

After a tedious session of chasing after animals, vaccinating and treating them, everyone took refuge under the big trees, from the blazing sun and having a much-needed drink of water. It was then that the students quickly engaged the local farmers, having candid and constructive discussions on primary animal health issues ranging from the common diseases in the area, their treatment and traditional veterinary interventions and norms. Client communication is one of the important facets of being a good veterinarian and this engagement allowed students to do this and get insights into what farmers believe and some of the notions they have. Apart from learning how to effectively communicate with the communities that they serve, the students were provided with an opportunity to share information with local farmers. After which the student said their goodbyes to the farmers who asked them to continue with such interventions. The rest of the afternoon was wound up doing farm visits and after a long and busy day, we only managed to get back to campus after 18h00. The table below highlights the number of animals that were vaccinated:

Table 1.1: Number of vaccinated animals

Day	Cattle vaccinated for Lumpy Skin Disease	Heifers vaccinated for Contagious Abortion	Animal receiving primary animal health care	Farmers engaged with in discussions
Day One	945	81	6	22
Day Two	682	65	7	18

RESEARCH BYTES

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The discerning researcher considers all known, but
may accept little.

In a move to strengthen its research outputs and become a world-class and cutting-edge institution, UKZN launched its four research flagships in September, 2018. The flagships comprise Social Cohesion led by Professor Relebohile Moletsane; African Health headed by Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim; Big Data and Informatics led by Professor Francesco Petruccione; and African City of the Future headed by Professor Rob Slotow.

UKZNdabaOnline, Vol 6, Issue 50

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Standing on the shoulders of giants – a good researcher ensures that the literature review contains the work/arguments of giants in that field of study, that is researchers who are considered to be seminal.

It Takes a Village: Community Engagement, Itirele Zenzele Comprehensive School, Diepsloot, Gauteng

by

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[Final Year Educational Psychology Masters Students]
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The MEd Educational Psychology final year Master's students from the University of Pretoria participated in community engagement practices in the community of Diepsloot, Gauteng. As part of the project, a parenting workshop was facilitated, informing parents about the various ways in which they could support and communicate with their children. In addition, a Career Expo, specifically for the benefit of secondary school learners, was hosted.

The parenting workshop aimed to address certain topics as identified by the parents residing in Diepsloot, in order to best meet the needs of the community. These topics included: effective communication, relationship building, discipline and problem-solving. An interactive session, marked by collaboration, facilitated learning and expanded parental knowledge regarding these topics. A joint partnership was fostered between the parents and the Ed Psych Master's students, enhancing the collective commitment towards sharing information for the benefit of the children in the community. Collaboration and establishing unity among individuals from multicultural

backgrounds paved the way for creating a platform for learning. Parents provided localised knowledge and insight in relation to specific parenting challenges and triumphs in the community.

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Their knowledge undoubtedly enhanced the value of the workshop presented promoted collaborative conversations towards success and social cohesion.

The Career Expo hosted by the Faculty of Education was for the benefit of the learners of the school to expose them to a range of career options and job seeking skills and to provide information on funding opportunities and study orientations, through interactive and creative means. Learners were supplied with informative pamphlets and additional media to guide their career decision-making process. The learners were inquisitive and participated in the interactive manner in which the Master's students presented the various career fields. In addition, a website was created to include additional information with the aim of developing learners' career knowledge and providing them with a tool to assist them to independently access information in resource-limited communities.

This resource can be viewed at <https://diepslootcareerhub.wixsite.com/mysite>. The entire Master's team were thoroughly impressed by the learners' overall vision and their enthusiasm to learn.

The amicable and respectful manner in which the University of Pretoria's Master's students were received has undoubtedly laid the foundation for future community partnerships in the Diepsloot community. We are thankful for the opportunity to engage in invaluable community engagement practices through the formation of collaborative relationships between the University of Pretoria and the community members of Diepsloot. After spending only two days in this incredible part of South Africa, the Master's students experienced the value of enhancing social cohesion by means of active engagement and knowledge sharing, in order to better the lives of the people of our country.



Shannon Berriman

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Escaping the hustle and bustle of the hamster wheel of life can be such a hard thing to do, when life is so full, and you do not have the time. In reality, we actually cannot afford not to take time out, as it is so valuable and good for us.

When stepping out into nature and taking in deep lung-filled breathes of fresh, crisp air – everything starts to slow down – air mends our bodies and our souls. Our sense start awakening, and something starts to shift. We start hearing all the different sounds of nature and if we allow it, the sounds start to penetrate into our inner being. We actually shift from hearing to intentionally listening. When we cup our hands behind our ears and slowly move our heads from side to side, the sounds become more distinct, meaningful and clear. We start getting lost in the awe and wonder of the inspiring dynamic of nature. When looking at the natural beauty around us, without the lenses of categories and titles was a wonderful way of just being! We have the opportunity to absorb that which we are looking at; into a deeper depth that we often miss when we rush around.

Every aspect of nature has many different layers of colour, texture, smell, design and purpose. As we start connecting and really seeing with Mother Nature, a strong pull starts to develop - a pull of inquisitiveness, respect, surrender and of being home, is exerted.

Nature has so much to offer and teach us. We need to remove our “conditioned” lenses from our eyes, open our minds and souls to allow her to pour unconditional love, peace and beauty on us. She does this to ground, centre and grow us.

As we explore more in nature and allow ourselves to get lost in her majestic beauty, we start to realise that much of our lives are lived out of habit, in an unfocussed rush, with busyness, much noise and distraction.

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To press the pause button and have the time to just “be” with no judgement, doing and deadlines, has been so restoring, refreshing and valuable. Shifting our focus and senses to something much greater than ourselves has been a valuable lesson.

In the Law of Nature, everything happens, at the perfect time. Each species grows and blooms when the conditions are right, for them. Each activity in nature takes place for a specific purpose and affects the next step in the ecosystem, which is so beautifully inter-linked and woven into the web of life.

May we always treasure the beauty of creation. May we allow Mother Nature to penetrate deep into our inner being. May we continue to learn the invaluable lessons she is teaching us about how to enrich and restore our lives. May we return home as more valuable individuals than when we left. May all we leave behind are our footprints, as part of our “Thank You”.

To enjoy a majestic Wilderness Retreat at Cumberland Nature Reserve with the incredibly knowledgeable nature guide, John Roff, you will not be sorry!!!

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The Anticapital Submission Guidelines and Style Guide

Welcome to **The Anticapital**. We are a brand-new publication with the goal of amplifying the voices of the working class. Our aim is to create a space to tell our stories — ones that capture the beauty of our diversity, our struggles, and our solidarity.

We welcome the writing of those typically behind classist barriers to publication. It's not accolades, or degrees or follower counts we care about, only the strength of your writing, the insights of your work, the meaning you convey.

We want visiting our publication to feel like self-care for the alienated working-class individual. Your work is more likely to be published here if it is unique, makes a strong point, and is bursting at the seams with solidarity.

Topics we look for

- Culture, race, and politics. Especially minority, colonized, indigenous, BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, disabled, feminist, working class, and otherwise oppressed perspectives
- Experiences from poverty
- Artists from the movement and their work

- Mental health advocacy, especially self-care, self-love, and self-compassion
- Sex and relationships
- The human condition as it pertains to working class solidarity or struggle
- Mutual aid, community organizing, and anti-capitalist unity
- Film, game, and book reviews or recommendations based on relevance to our movement or critiques/analysis through that lens
- Critique of individualistic culture or ideas in favor of systemic analysis. This includes taking academic studies and data on social systems and explaining them in laypersons terms.
- Have an idea you think would work for us that isn't on this list? Email the editor your pitch to mguevarra.q@gmail.com and include "Article pitch" in your email title.

In short, we're looking for **great writing that either makes a clear argument or an interesting, resonant point**. When it comes to quality, we share the perspective of [Medium's curation guidelines](#) with the added texture of our preferred topics.

Formats we dig

- Personal stories with a narrative structure
- Essays with a clear thesis or rhetorical purpose
- Research pieces
- Lists or "listicles"
- Transcribed interviews or Q&As with artists, activists, and other persons from the movement
- On comparatively rare occasions, topical poetry and fiction

For more: <https://medium.com/the-anticapital/the-anticapital-submission-guidelines-and-style-guide-43b111aafac3>



👂 I have been quiet for a while because, I have been saving my energy for this BIG ANNOUNCEMENT! 🎉🎉🎉
I will be co-hosting South Africa's first FEMINIST TV SHOW called It's A Feminist Thing Talk Show.
I will be alongside the following POWERHOUSES: Kgomotso Matsunyane ; Phinah Kodisang; AND Nyiko Lebogang Shikwambane !

The REVOLUTION WILL BE TELEVISED! And, This is the REVOLUTION we need in order to mainstream the issues that we need to have.

We need spaces to unpack our existences as diverse and intersectional women living in the most unequal, Patriarchal; and one of the most violent societies in the world.

We will be unapologetically dismantling Patriarchy by addressing a whole range of issues. To find out more about the show and the topics to be covered, Please click on the Link below for the official PSA on Twitter:

https://twitter.com/SoulCity_SA/status/1321314278343933952

Follow: #theFthing You can also follow me on the following Handles:

@Thando Gumede ZA – Facebook @thando_gumede_za – Instagram @ThandGumedeZA - Twitter

IMPORTANT NOTICES TO ALL AUTHORS

NOTICE 1

Dear Authors

Thank you so much to everyone who submitted their great creative piece(s) which were published in Volumes 1 - 31 and to those whose pieces are in the current publication, we are grateful for your amazing work.

Creative pieces in any language are welcome.

Kindly please note that we **ONLY** publish **8-10** “creative pieces” each week.

If your piece is not in the current publication, it will be published the following week.

Kind regards,
Creative Network Magazine Team

NOTICE 2

Dear Authors

Whenever you submit your creative piece to Dr. James, we kindly and warmly request you to please also send the following note with your submission:

I (Full name and Surname) hereby grant permission for the Creative Network Magazine to publish my submission (creative piece).