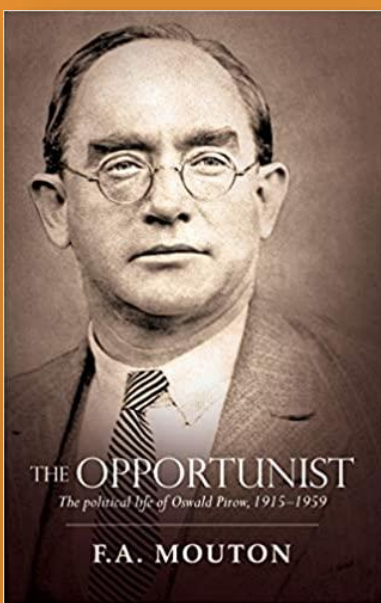


THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Invites you to the launch of
Prof. Alex Mouton's latest book titled:

“OPPORTUNIST: THE POLITICAL LIFE OF OSWALD PIROW, 1915-1959”



Date: 29 October 2021

Time: 10:00 – 11:30

Venue: MS Teams

Enquiries: gumedsp@unisa.ac.za

[Click link to join](#)



PROF. ALEX MOUTON
AUTHOR/ KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SYNOPSIS:

Oswald Pirow (1890-1959) is very much part of the history of South Africa. He was the founder of South African Airways, leader of the fascist New Order movement and prosecuted Nelson Mandela in the Treason Trial. His appointment in 1929 as Minister of Justice at the age of 39 made him at that stage the youngest cabinet minister the country had ever had. He was a dynamic and innovative member of parliament, reviving and modernising the bankrupt railway system, and as the Minister of Defence he rebuilt the neglected Union Defence Force. Intelligent, charismatic and seen by some as a future prime minister, he met world leaders like Chamberlain, Hitler and Mussolini.