FAKE NEWS

Peter Burger who is currently involved in a project about fake news at the University of Leiden was so kind to scrabble down a few notes, which I have rather freely translated into English

Burger himself is known for his work on contemporary legends, see:
https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/peter-burger#tab-1
website (in Dutch): http://www.gestolengrootmoeder.nl/wordpress/

He alerts us to the work of Stephen Winick:
https://blogs.loc.gov/folklife/2017/02/fake-news-folk-news-and-the-fate-of-far-away-moses/
And:
http://culturedigitally.org/2017/01/putting-the-folklore-in-fake-news/

Enthusiasm about fake news is apparently stronger among members of the International Society for Contemporary Legend Research than among the followers of the Belief Narrative Network.
Cf. the reactions Winick to Winick's call for papers for a panel on the AFS conference:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISCLR/permalink/1558502147512466/

Burger also points to research by political scientists. The following paper is of interest because its authors actually tried to calculate the influence of fake news on the US elections:
https://web.stanford.edu/~gentzkow/research/fakenews.pdf

At the moment the project in Leiden is primarily aimed at a practical impact, but it may turn into proper academic research at some future date. Two of Berger's contributions (also in Dutch):
http://nieuwscheckers.nl/nieuwscheckers/hoax-asielzoekers-mishandelen-puppy/
http://nieuwscheckers.nl/nieuwscheckers/hoax-dementor-boven-winkelcentrum-in-zambia/

So far there is no English version of the Leiden project, but Burger points to an English description of how to factcheck Racebook in general:
https://qz.com/936503/facebooks-new-method-of-fighting-fake-news-is-making-it-hard-for-people-to-post-a-false-story-about-irish-slaves/?
utm_source=Daily+Lab+email+list&utm_campaign=30e0ef08d4-dailylabemail3&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d68264fd5e-30e0ef08d4-391320009

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