The cultural services of the French Embassy of the United States have given another confirmation of their generosity and support by awarding $9500 to The Glissant Translation Project, in addition to the $9000 they bestowed to the Center for French and Francophone Studies last year. The Directors of the project are Prof. Valérie Loichot (Emory University) and Alexandre Leupin, with the participation of Profs. Michael Dash (NYU), Celia Britton (University College of London), Hugo Azerad (Cambridge, UK), and Charles Forsdick (University of Liverpool, UK).

The 2017 grant has already allowed for the rights acquisition, translation and publication of Introduction à une poétique du divers (1996, translator Celia Britton), Mémoires des esclavages (2007, translator Charles Forsdick), Les entretiens de Baton Rouge (2008, translator Kate M. Cooper), L’Imaginaire des langues (2010, translator Celia Britton). These four fundamental works will be published simultaneously by Liverpool University Press, a most distinguished academic publisher, in 2019.

Glissant’s work is a towering achievement of French and Francophone culture. Drawing from the European philosophical and poetic tradition, the oeuvre redraws the national borders of all cultural legacies and opens them to a dialogue with all civilization of the world across time and geographic boundaries. As such, it deserves to be much better known worldwide, especially in the Anglosphere. The dissemination in this latter space has been hampered by the lack of translations of Glissant’s most recent essays. Thanks to the cultural services of the French Embassy, this deficiency is beginning to be resolved.