

# Willamette River Sculpture



In late May the department celebrated the completion of the Nash Hall Courtyard project, which includes the Memorial Garden and the Willamette River sculpture..

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The Willamette River is an integral part of the culture of our region. From its headwaters to the south to its confluence with the Columbia River to the north, the river flows through forests, farmlands and cities. These features, and the dams that control its waters, have shaped the flow and contour of the river.

This iron and glass sculpture conveys the dynamic nature of the Willamette River and its tributaries. At tributary junctures, cast glass rounds detail the complex channels that occur beneath the river surface, a network carved over many years by a meandering river.

This work was a collaboration between undergraduate Karl Payne, who conceived of the design for the river, and Microbiology professor Jerri Bartholomew, who cast the tributary channels. The Linn Benton Community College welding program carried out the fabrication. This piece is dedicated to Dr. John L. Fryer, former Microbiology professor and chair, and to all the researchers who have studied the river and its fish.

**Dedicated May 2019**

