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IN BRIEF

Middle East Club features culture for charitable cause

The University's Middle East Club invites students to follow the sound of the sitar to a free night of traditional food, music, dancing and fellowship tonight. At Riley Hall in the main lounge at 7 p.m., the event will include

guest speaker Shaul Cohen, a University associate professor of geography, as well as traditional tea, hookah smoking and various books and displays promoting the Middle East.

President of the Middle East Club, freshman Natalie Tajipour, a biology and anthropology major, said she hopes that people from all backgrounds will attend.

"It's all about raising cultural awareness," Tajipour said. "Gathering

the community to share ideas and tradition."

The club hopes to raise \$300 through donations at the event to sponsor an orphan from Bam, Iran, affected by the 2003 earthquake that left thousands dead and destroyed 70 to 90 percent of the residential areas of the ancient city. All donations from the event will go to the Kahrizak Foundation to sponsor the child.

— Brittini McClenahan

Rally: Some COE professors support efforts

Continued from page 1

Garcia challenged all students to get involved, regardless of whether they had experienced discrimination. "There are students of color ... that still go to class where their professors tell racist jokes ... because they believe in their future," she said. "They believe they can make a difference. We are asking you not to let them down."

In a May 10 memorandum, Vice President for Academic Affairs Lorraine Davis and Kaufman outlined their plan to bring in Dr. Carlos E. Cortés, a professor from University of California, Riverside, to conduct an

external review of the diversity issues students have raised.

"Dr. Cortés will provide us with information to evaluate how we are doing and the work we have remaining in creating a more inclusive environment at the College of Education," according to the letter. "His review will give us a realistic assessment of our efforts to infuse diversity into our curriculum and our efforts to recruit faculty and students of color."

An external review of the college was one of eight demands that a coalition of more than 150 students, faculty and community members submitted

to fight discrimination in the COE.

Adjunct Assistant Professor Doug Herman, who teaches in the COE, said the rally raises some important issues.

"When I found out about these issues, my reaction and the reaction of two of my colleagues that were here with me today was that we need to go see about this and we need to see if there's issues that we can do something about," he said. "I had a conversation with a colleague and we talked about ways we can address this in our classrooms."

moriahbalangit@dailyemerald.com

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