During the Fall Semester 2016, the University created a Social Committee which was charged with holding social events for our employees with the overall goal of improving morale in the face of continuous budget challenges that we faced. The Social Committee held numerous events such as:

- Picnics following the Faculty Opening Meetings
- Food Trucks during the Summer
- WestCafe Events during the Spring Semesters
- Coffee & Breakfast Events multiple times during the year
- Ice Cream Emergency Truck

Over the years, these events hosted anywhere from 75 to 350 employees and it helped to improve everyone’s morale and to build a stronger University Community. Unfortunately, then in March 2020 the COVID-19 Pandemic arrived, and we had to stop all our events for obvious reasons. Then, based on the continuing financial challenges that we as a University faced, the budget for these programs were cut as well.

Now that the University has returned to hosting in-person events again, the members of the Social Committee met at the beginning of the semester to try and identify where we can obtain funding in order to host some events this year. I am happy to report that we recently were able to obtain funding from Dr. Paul Beran, Interim President and the Alumni Association in order to host three (3) Social Committee events this academic year. Below is a listing of the upcoming events and dates that we have planned:

1. Coffee & Breakfast Event – This will be held on Wednesday, November 9th from 9:00am – 11:00am on the Midtown Campus (final location to be determined.)
2. WestCafe Event – This will be held during the beginning of the Spring Semester on the Westside Campus.
3. Ice Cream Emergency Truck – This event will be held on Wednesday, April 26th from 2:00pm – 5:00pm on the Midtown Campus.
Once the final details are confirmed for each event, I will send out a calendar invitation to everyone publicizing the event.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the members of the Social Committee for all their hard work and dedication over the years in being a part of this committee. Below is a listing of the current membership:

- Tammie Battista, Fiscal Affairs
- Kim Bridges, Nursing
- Jessica Coronel, Pre-Collegiate & Access Services
- Fred Cratty, Human Resources
- Tom Crucitti, Alumni Relations
- Jennifer Cunningham, Provost’s Office
- Stephanie Kuhn, Education & Educational Psychology
- Amanda Lasicki, Financial Aid & Student Employment
- Aura Lippincott, Library Services
- Ellen Ober, AccessAbility Services
- Birte Pfitzner, Vice President for Student Affairs Office
- Amy Shanks, Intercollegiate Athletics & Recreation
- Monica Sousa, Nursing
- Angie Staino-Zavatkay, Library Services

Our committee can always use some additional help and new ideas, so if you are interested in joining it, please let me know as we would be happy to have you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 203-837-8665 or via email at crattyf@wcsu.edu