

**Position title: Leadership Observer/Controller (OC)**

Summary of the position: The Leadership OC is responsible for assessing and evaluating the student Platoon Leader and Assistant Platoon Leader's leadership performance during a 3-6 hour mission cycle. S/he is also responsible for controlling the flow of training and simulation within the medical platoon and plays an important role in guiding and mentoring the entire platoon. S/he should have operational experience as a platoon leader of a table of organization and equipment (TOE) medical platoon or as OIC for a ship's medical section or flight medical section. (Alternatively has commanded any TOE/TDA unit.) Staff experience at battalion/squadron or higher is helpful. The Leadership OC must have an understanding of the leadership requirements and tactical challenges associated with providing Combat Health Support at the Battalion Aid Station level.

**Position title: Surgeon Observer/Controller**

Summary of the position: The Surgeon OC is responsible for assessing and evaluating medical skills, decision-making and medical leadership for two simultaneous students assigned to the Surgeon (Treatment Team Leader) role during a 3-6 hour mission cycle. Evaluated areas include the student's ability to triage, evaluate and manage medical, combat stress, and trauma patients and to oversee a preventive medicine program. S/he will be the key controller of simulated medical casualties guiding students through a variety of clinical scenarios ranging from DNBI to trauma casualties. The Surgeon OC must be a credentialed medical provider and should have medical experience in a forward unit, Combat Support Hospital (CSH), Fleet Hospital, EMEDS, or ship's medical section, S/he should have an understanding of the requirements and challenges associated with providing immediate frontline clinical care and stabilization of DNBI, trauma, and combat stress casualties by a primary health care provider including Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) and Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS).

**Position title: Combat Stress Control (CSC) Observer/Controller**

Summary of the position: The CSC OC is responsible for assessing and evaluating the interviewing, assessment, and management skills for CSC casualties for two simultaneous students assigned to the Combat Stress Control (CSC) officer role during a 3-6 hour mission cycle. S/he will evaluate and mentor the student on his ability to oversee a unit CSC program and to advise the commander on issues involving unit-wide psychological crises. The CSC OC is normally chosen from amongst current military psychiatry residents but may be any mental health provider with appropriate forward CSC experience. The CSC OC must have an understanding of the requirements and challenges associated with providing immediate frontline care of mental health casualties and management of unit-wide psychological crises.

**Position title: Ambulance Team Leader (ATL) Observer/Controller**

Summary of the position: The ATL OC is responsible for assessing and evaluating a student's medical skills, decision-making and leadership while assigned as Ambulance Team Leader(ATL) during a 3-6 hour mission cycle. The ATL OC's focus is on Point of Injury care, Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), and patient evacuation at the First Responder level. S/he is normally an NCO combat medic or corpsman and should have First Responder experience in a variety of settings. The ATL OC must have an understanding of the requirements and challenges associated with providing First Responder care at the point of injury for trauma, and combat stress casualties by a combat medic/hospital corpsman including Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) and En-Route Care.

**Position title: Evaluation Team Leader**

Summary of the position: The OC Team Leader is responsible for coordinating the Evaluation Team's efforts. He is generally a veteran of OPERATION BUSHMASTER and ideally has served in a variety of evaluation roles during previous exercises. His primary focus will be on controlling the scenarios, translating the exercise director's vision and guidance in conjunction with the scenario materials into quality simulated experiences for the students by injecting operational problems and interfacing with role players, exercise staff and leadership. He may be required to assist in assessing and evaluating the students in any of the leadership roles during critical periods of a 3-6 hour mission cycle or during unanticipated absences of members of the evaluation team. The OC Team Leader must have an understanding of the leadership requirements and tactical challenges associated with providing Combat Health Support at the Battalion Aid Station level. He must also have an understanding of the flow of the Bushmaster exercise.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Interest**

- Leadership Observer/Controller (OC)
- Surgeon Observer/Controller
- Combat Stress Control (CSC) Observer/Controller
- Ambulance Team Leader (ATL) Observer/Controller
- Evaluation Team Leader

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# OPERATION BUSHMASTER

## Have you thought about becoming a Faculty Observer?



**Available Positions:**

- Leadership Observer/Controller (OC) • Surgeon Observer/Controller • Combat Stress Control (CSC) Observer/Controller • Ambulance Team Leader (ATL) Observer/Controller • Evaluation Team Leader

## Military Contingency Medicine

Military Contingency Medicine (MM04001) is the capstone course for the four year integrated military medicine curriculum. MCM is four weeks long and features both classroom didactic teaching and the field training exercise: OPERATION BUSHMASTER. The Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) course is a pre-requisite for the course and is provided by the Department of Surgery under the guidance of the American College of Surgeons during prescribed times for the School of Medicine curriculum.

MCM is structured around a simulated deployment to the notional developing country of Pandakar. The classroom portion of the course represents the pre-deployment work-up for the deployment and is designed to provide the opportunity for students to acquire/hone the critical knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for successful assignment and deployment as a tactical level military medical officer in their parent service. The course employs a variety of teaching methodologies ranging from lecture to small-group discussions, and applied practical exercises in order to build upon topics introduced throughout the entire four year USU military medical curriculum. Topics include, but are not limited to, military environmental medicine, applied field medicine, Health Service Support (HSS) planning, Military Decision Making, problem solving, leadership, personal and family readiness, mass casualty (MASCAL) incident preparation and response, stability operations, Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), and medical intelligence. All coursework is designed to emphasize learning objectives focused on the current operational environment.

## Operation Bushmaster

OPERATION BUSHMASTER is a 5-day field training exercise (FTX) conducted as the capstone event of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' military unique curriculum. During this exercise, fourth year USU medical students, Graduate School of Nursing students, and international military medical students and physicians are formally evaluated on their medical knowledge and leadership abilities in a simulated, resource constrained, far forward tactical field setting. Students assume leadership and medical positions within a non-service specific battalion aid station where they are presented with operationally current, reality-based missions and operational problems for which they must plan and/or execute while simultaneously managing the medical care of simulated Disease and Non-Battle Injury (DNBI) patients, combat stress casualties, and combat trauma casualties. Faculty members formally evaluate leadership skills, medical skills, combat stress casualty care and point of injury care.

### Exercise Goals:

- Provide challenging settings through peer leadership opportunities that result in the students' personal growth in leadership, followership and interpersonal communication skills.
- Provide a simulated combat environment that challenges

students to develop their understanding and apply principles of military ethics, individual field skills, military decision making, command and control, and critical thinking.

- Provide a teaching environment where students can apply principles of military systems-based medical practice that focus on immediate frontline clinical care, tactical combat casualty care, stabilization, combat stress control, and force health protection.
- Provide a series of operational missions and problems that challenge the students and reinforce the principles of health service support.
- Provide an experience that results in team building and instills a sense of mission accomplishment.

## The Bushmaster Faculty Observer/Controller (OC)

As an Observer Controller (OC) you will be a member of an evaluation team that is collectively responsible for teaching, mentoring and evaluating leadership, medical skills, combat stress care, and general field skills for a medical platoon consisting of approximately 27 senior USU medical students, USU Graduate School of Nursing students and international military medical students and physicians. You will also play a critical role in translating the exercise script into meaningful training events and controlling the exercise scenario for the students based on the exercise director's vision and guidance. The Bushmaster OC is where "the rubber meets the road" and is an absolutely vital link to the successful conduct of this complex and ambitious training plan. It is a highly coveted and equally highly rewarding experience and offers you the ability to make a genuine impact on the future of not only our next generation of military medical officers, but also on the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines that they serve.

The Bushmaster Exercise is conducted in two identical sequential 5-day rotations (see quick facts below), during each of which approximately 100 students are trained in 4 identical medical platoons.

Prospective faculty may volunteer to work either the first or second rotation or both rotations depending on their availability.

The OC's are asked to attend a half-day training session on site at Fort Indiantown Gap the day prior to the students going into "the box" to begin the Bushmaster Scenarios at which time students will begin to rotate through evaluation cycles of anywhere between 3-6+ hours each.

OCs are assigned to 1 of 2 evaluation teams that are scheduled for either an early or late shift that generally spans 8-12 hours and covers anywhere between 2-4 leadership cycles. A "Platoon TAC Officer" will be recruited on a volunteer basis from each team to remain over night, sleeping with the students.

For those interested, there is an opportunity for faculty members to get involved in the Student's RSOI training during the first few days of the exercise.

USU provides lodging, meals and funding for transportation into the Fort Indiantown Gap area.

## Essential duties and responsibilities for all Bushmaster OC's:

- Assess the student's Mental, Physical and Emotional Attributes, leadership skills, and actions IAW the USUHS Leadership Development Plan. (Technical /Tactical Competence, Conceptual and Interpersonal Skills, Communication, Decision Making, Resource Stewardship, Planning and Organization, Execution, Force Protection/ Safety, Assessing, Learning)
- For medical positions, assess the student's medical skills IAW the USUHS Leadership Development Plan (Triage, Patient Evaluation and management, trauma management, disposition, and preventive medicine).
- Records observations of student behavior and provides written and verbal feedback to the student to assist with his professional growth within the specific focus area of the OC.
- Provides mentorship, guidance and instruction to the entire medical platoon.
- Controls the clinical presentation and development of simulated casualties (except leadership OC).
- Controls the flow of the scenarios based on provided scenario materials and guidance by injecting operational problems through interface with the exercise director, role players, and radio.

## Position specifications for all Bushmaster OC's:

- Education: Officers have completed Military Education Level VI (preferred, but not required). NCO's should be EMT-B or EMT-P certified and should have been trained in Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC).
- Deployment experience within the last 5 years is preferred, but not required.
  - Understanding of the Principles of Health Service Support and the means by which to employ those principles in an operational environment.
  - General understanding of battalion aid station operations, to include site selection, establishment, split operations, air and ground medical evacuation procedures, administrative and logistics operations.
  - General understanding of the Military Decision Making Process and the 8 Steps of the Troop Leading Procedures.