



UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

F. EDWARD HÉBERT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE
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7 March, 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: Potential Bushmaster Observer/Controllers

SUBJECT: Operation Bushmaster Initial Faculty Invitation

It is that time of year again for the initial notification for this upcoming year's OPERATION BUSHMASTER. Because of your expertise and/or experience, you have been hand selected for the opportunity to apply to participate as a faculty Observer/Controller (OC) for the premier medical training event in the Department of Defense and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

THE EXERCISE. For those of you who are not familiar with the exercise, OPERATION BUSHMASTER is the capstone Field Training Exercise at USUHS for senior medical students and graduate nursing students. Students participate in a simulated deployment to the notional country of *Pandakar* in what begins as a show-of-force mission that progresses through defensive to offensive operations in an effort to maintain the legitimate government of *Pandakar*. Students are tasked with planning for the deployment and conducting medical support operations in a variety of challenging situations. Students are formally evaluated in leadership, medical operations, medical delivery in the field (trauma and DNBI), tactical combat casualty care, tactical evacuation, and combat stress. Your role as an OC will be to facilitate learning, provide formative feedback and mentorship, and to provide input into the formal evaluation of the students.

FUNDING. USUHS provides 100% funding for travel for all traveling from within CONUS and provides all billeting and mess needs once you arrive at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. Billeting is provided in traditional military barracks. Additional travel guidance will be disseminated at a later date.

DATES. The exercise is conducted in two identical iterations with a short reset period (approximately 24 hours) in between them. The dates for this year's exercise are as follows:

	<u>Iteration 1</u>	<u>Iteration 2</u>
Report To FtIG	NLT 11 July 12:00	NLT 17 July 12:00
"RSOI Training" (optional)	10-11 July	16-17 July
Faculty Train-up Session	11 July 13:00	17 July 13:00
Exercise Begins	12 July 06:00	18 July 06:00
Exercise Ends (released)	14 July 00:00	20 July 00:00
Closing Ceremony	15 July 11:30	21 July 11:30

The total time commitment is a minimum of 6 days (2 travel days, 1 day of faculty training, 3 days evaluating). Most faculty members will participate in only one of the two iterations, but you are welcome to participate in both if your command will support you and you are so motivated. Those that do participate in both iterations quickly develop their expertise in small-unit tactical learning facilitation and gain a great deal of personal satisfaction in providing mentorship to the future of military medicine.

OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE. We are actively seeking those personnel with tactical operational experience. Recent deployment experience is preferred (but not mandatory). This exercise is a great opportunity to impart valuable lessons on these future military medical officers; the magic

happens by placing you with your experience in contact with the students in an environment which allows you to share your wisdom and experience with the students.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM. Recent changes in the evaluation team structure reinforce the need for a multi-disciplinary team approach to mentorship and evaluation. We need **officers** and **NCOs** with experience in conducting medical operations. This team includes Physicians (of all specialties), Physician Assistants, Family Nurse Practitioners, Medical Service Corps Officers, Pre-hospital providers, Combat Medics, Psychologists and others. The important thing is your experience in the field. If selected, you will be paired with a well-balanced team.

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

A brochure detailing the expectations and requirements of the position is attached. Please refer to this brochure for more information.

EXPANDING THE NETWORK. We are continually striving to provide the best product for your future medical officers as possible. To do requires that we place the best faculty mentors into the exercise as possible. To do so we seek to expand our faculty pool. If you can recommend anyone who you feel would be an asset to the exercise in any of the faculty positions or as a staff member in support of the exercise, please send his or her contact information. (Please insure we have a good email address above all else.)

APPLICATION. If you are interested in applying as a faculty-observer, please complete the attached enclosure and forward to:

ATTN: OPERATION BUSHMASTER EVALUATOR APPLICATIONS

Email: drink@usuhs.mil ; FAX: 301-295-0529

Applications need to be received NLT 31 May 2011.

NOTIFICATION. You will be notified of your selection as an observer-controller at the earliest possible time. The key is to remain in contact with us. Please be patient as our OPTEMPO is high the closer we get to the exercise. Final notifications will be sent out NLT 15 JUN 11.

POC. Address questions to the course director: justin.woodson@usuhs.mil or 301-295-0529.



JUSTIN WOODSON, MD, MPH
LTC, MC, SFS (DMO) US Army
Course Director, Military Contingency Medicine
Exercise Director, Operation Bushmaster

Attachments:

1. Bushmaster OC Application
2. Bushmaster OC Brochure