In this edition of the Old Line Herald, you will find an in-depth look at what our Det. 330 Cadets do throughout the different groups and in high level positions to keep this Wing running. We are extremely proud of all the efforts of our cadets that make this clock tick while learning valuable lessons along the way to take with them to officership.

We'd like to thank all the cadets that helped contribute to this edition of the newsletter and to all of our readers. Hope you enjoy!

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Position Spotlight: Wing Commander

Written by Cadet Wing Commander, David Fuentes

For starters, I can delve into what exactly this “Wing Staff” group of cadets/people are and what our overall job within the cadet wing is. The Wing Staff is made up of the following cadet positions: the Cadet Wing Commander, Cadet Vice Wing Commander, Cadet Chief of Staff, Operations Group Commander, Maintenance Group Commander, Mission Support Group Commander, Executive Group Commander, the Cadet Wing Executive Officer (XO) and Cadet Wing Inspector General. Our job is, in a nutshell, to coordinate all Cadet Wing activities and make sure that Leadership Lab (LLAB) and additional Professional Military Training (PMT) is accomplished accordingly and appropriately.

So, now that there’s the overview of Wing Staff, what exactly does the Cadet Wing Commander do? The “official” definition of my duties is the following:

The CWg/CC is charged with cooperating with the CWg/CV and the rest of Wing Staff in order to oversee the execution of all Wing events as well as the suspenses listed in the Fall 2020 Mission Directive. It is the job of the CWg/CC to serve as a liaison between Cadre and the Cadet Wing and will meet with the Operations Flight Commander (OFC) at least once per week in order to review the previous LLAB and plan for the better execution of training in the future. The CWg/CC leads the Wing Staff and serves as support for all decision-making, counseling, and other issues. The CWg/CC is considered the subject-matter expert in all topics related to Detachment 330.

What does all that mean? I am only one piece of the puzzle to make sure the Air Force ROTC training experience is conducted properly, and even then this role is meant to help myself grow and develop as a future follower (read: leader) in the United States Air Force. I’m not in this position because I’m more qualified or ready to put on those 2d Lt ranks when compared to my peers.

In fact, some of the most rewarding training experiences I have had throughout my ROTC career have been this summer and semester as the Cadet Wing Commander: having the ability to make an impact on cadets as they either begin or continue their time in ROTC, the opportunity to get a glimpse into the cadre-perspective and receive open feedback from all of our cadre – particularly from our NCO’s TSgt Anglin and TSgt Sidbury, and navigating this COVID environment as a Wing Staff team. As rewarding as working on implementing LLAB through two means (in-person and virtually), it has also been one of the largest challenges, primarily because we want to ensure that the quality of training between the two forums is equal while maintaining safety. I did not, and have not, come up with all of the ideas and answers - a majority of them came from our fellow cadet leaders, and with each LLAB scratched off the calendar, we continue to utilize feedback from the detachment to tweak and adjust future events.

So, to reiterate, what does the Cadet Wing Commander do? I rely on the efforts, ingenuity, and work ethic of every single cadet leader in Det 330 so that “the execution of all Wing events... [and] the suspenses listed in the Fall 2020 Mission Directive” are accomplished and we can continue to develop leaders of character for the Air Force, and more importantly, society as a whole.
I am Cadet Ables, the Vice Wing Commander for Detachment 330 here at the University of Maryland. This position works a lot with the Wing Commander and the Wing Chief of Staff to run the wing, making sure all tasks are completed, events scheduled and objectives met. Mostly we coordinate with Group Commanders, providing directive for the specific task of each group. Of the Wing Staff non Group Commander members, I mainly oversee the Resource Manager and Uniform Officer. The Uniform Office tends to operate independently but I still provide oversight to them. The Resource Manager is in charge of handling the detachment finances, they provide me weekly updates of purchases, fundraising plans and current financial status. My main weekly tasks focus on creating the LLAB Schedule. I plan LLAB five weeks in advance and create our LLAB Operations Order one week in advance. Further, when looking at LLAB plans it is my responsibility to ensure that the Operations Group and Executive Group are properly working towards their training objectives. The most challenging part of the job so far has been the randomness of tasks, new guidance from the University, from cadre or issues with cadets can arise at any moment and it is always best to deal with these things as soon as possible. This timing can really throw a wrench into my schedule but I have realized the earlier I handle those things the less they mess up my schedule. It is a lot to balance this workload with school. I am a Mechanical Engineering student and the combined work loads can get pretty heavy. Myself and C/Fuentes also wanted to focus on having guest speakers this semester, with COVID-19 affecting a lot of our training guest speakers is something that can have a large impact on both the cadets who elect to come in-person and those who still choose to participate via Zoom. All of the scheduling coming together, guest speakers, training objectives, large events and watching the cadets experience everything is definitely the most rewarding part of the job. It is also very rewarding to see how hard cadets work to make plans for events in these trying times, obviously we have had to change a lot and follow many restrictions but so many of our cadets have worked so hard to make things seem as normal as possible while keeping everyone safe.
As the Chief of Staff, I directly support the Wing's vision however I have a personal mission of empowering all positions that report to me to aid their creative aspirations. While the Chief of Staff position is mostly management (there are about 12 Wing Staff positions that directly report to me to ensure deadlines within their group are met), there is ample opportunity for problem-solving and innovation. I oversee the Process Improvement Team, Academic Enrichment Office, Joint Forces Liaison Officer, and Wing Advisors in addition to the Group Commander's operations. While the stellar individuals that operate those positions have commanding strengths of their own, I truly enjoy having the opportunity to work with them to bring new ideas to advance the detachment, as well as put our brains together when there are challenges. For example, C/Fuentes, C/Ables, and I have worked closely with the Academic Officer to revamp the Academic Enrichment Office. Under the leadership of C/Crews, her team has instituted weekly study hours that provide the opportunity for cadets to engage in a productive study environment (and also build a bit of espirit de corps along the way). When we have larger ideas, we look to dedicated and whip-smart individuals like C/Zapata and his Process Improvement Team to analyze and assess the best way to make grander scale (and sometimes minute) changes to the detachment to improve the cadet experience. For instance, amidst this transition to an ROTC experience that is dominantly over screens, we have assessed the best platforms to simplify and mainstream all detachment communications to be implemented in the upcoming semester. C/Fuentes, C/Ables and I (the Wing and Vice Wing Commanders), all work very closely together as the "Triad" to make joint decisions, keep each other informed, and operate a Wing united under a jointly crafted vision: "Create a unified culture with a foundation in professionalism, integrity, free-thinking, and inclusiveness to develop cadets into leaders of character."
Position Spotlight: Inspector General

Written by Cadet Inspector General, Jacob Oesterle

The general role of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is to make sure all cadet operations are within Air Force, AETC, AFROTC, and Detachment 330 regulations, directives, policies, and procedures. Our specific Detachment policies/procedures are compiled in the Operational Plan (OPLAN), which OIG updates every semester. In order to ensure everything is within regulations, we need to conduct inspections and observe.

Another big role of OIG is to investigate claims of hazing/maltreatment. OIG is a very unique role, because it falls outside of the cadet chain of command. The IG reports directly to the Operational Flight Commander (OFC), Capt Rager. OIG works closely with Wing Staff, but is not necessarily subject to disciplinary action from them or performance evaluations. This allows us to impartially investigate anyone in the cadet wing structure without running into issues of investigating a superior.

Besides just observing, OIG has some deliverables during the semester. These include various briefings, the OPLAN, and inspections. The Wing Inspection Team (WIT) does most of the inspections. This semester, we also coordinated with Col Jantz to create a Virtual Commander’s Action Line (coming soon), which is a direct link from cadets to the Detachment Commander.

During LLAB, the WITOs conduct inspections of CMC cadets. This includes uniforms, warrior knowledge, and general military bearing. The IG and DIG observe training (CMC and POC) and take notes. Simply observing is not necessarily strenuous, but in order to observe, we need to know what to look for.

This means we have to be very familiar with the OPLAN, the current FTM AFI36-2903 (Dress and Appearance) and the AFROTC supplement, AFMAN 36-2203 (Drill and Ceremonies), AFH 33-337 (Tongue and Quill), AETC 36-2909 (Recruiting, Education, Accessions, and Training Standards of Conduct), AFROTC 36-2011 (Cadet Operations), and AFROTC 36-2011 Vol 1 (LLAB Curriculum), AFI36-2903 (Dress and Appearance) and the AFROTC supplement, AFMAN 36-2203 (Drill and Ceremonies), AFH 33-337 (Tongue and Quill), AETC 36-2909 (Recruiting, Education, Accessions, and Training Standards of Conduct), AFROTC 36-2011 (Cadet Operations), and AFROTC 36-2011 Vol 1 (LLAB Curriculum). If that seems like a lot, it is. Preparing to be IG or DIG is a lot of reading.

Some new/innovative things we have done this semester include updating the continuity system. It uses a Google Doc that acts as a live document, meaning when someone takes over they do not have to recreate the entire document. A new template was made to provide more structure and prevent the problem of weak/bad continuity that stems from cadets being given little direction. Some positions put poor or minimal information down, making the continuity borderline useless. The overall goal is for this to be the last change to continuity so another system is not implemented. Another innovative thing we have done is create the OIG Resources Folder. It is a consolidation of important documents and publications so cadets have easy access to them. The idea is if cadets have a question about something, they should be able to find the answer in one of the documents/publications.

Overall, being in OIG means you must be the subject matter experts on relevant regulations and publications for the entire cadet wing. That doesn’t mean you have to know everything off the top of your head, but if you don’t know the answer, you need to know where to find it quickly. If everything goes well with training and cadet operations, being in OIG isn’t a very hard job. However, getting to the point where you know everything you need to know to do the job well can be very challenging. Not to mention, investigating claims of hazing/maltreatment is a tricky and sensitive process. As always, if you would like to report something to OIG, our virtual reporting system is linked here.
POSITION SPOTLIGHT: UNIFORM OFFICER

WRITTEN BY CADET UNIFORM OFFICER, TIM SEIDELL

MISSION

The mission of the Uniform Office (UO) is to distribute serviceable Air Force ROTC uniforms to the cadets of detachment 330.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The UO is run by the Uniform Officer along with his/her deputy. They work together to order and distribute uniforms to cadets in order of priority, maintain the office space and stock of uniforms, lead a team of CMC (underclassmen) cadets who run the UO during daily operating hours, and perform any other additional duties prescribed by our cadet wing staff and active duty officers/enlisted.

THIS SEMESTER

The start of every semester in the uniform office always begins with swapping cadets old ranks for the ones for the new semester. In the fall, every cadet trades in their ranks, but in the spring only the POC (upperclassmen) have to do so. The fall UO staff also have to collect the gear from the sophomores who have recently completed field training, as well as the uniforms of the cadets who graduated and commissioned into the Air Force at the beginning of the summer. Besides those initial tasks, in theory the rest of the semester would consist of issuing and returning items as cadets need them. However, there are almost always extra tasks to accomplish. This semester happens to be the first semester that AFROTC cadets are authorized to wear the Air Force’s newest work uniform, OCPs (Operational Camouflage Pattern). That project consists of ordering OCPs for every cadet in the detachment, distributing them once they arrive, and donating the previous uniform the ABU (Airman Battle Uniform) to local JROTC units.

PERSONAL PROJECTS

In addition to those mandatory tasks, POC cadets tend to do something unique or extra to better the functioning of the wing. This semester I have decided to take on two personal projects to enhance the UO. The first of those projects is a web-based database that keeps track of the stock of the uniform office. Previous attempts at paper records, excel sheets, and Microsoft access databases have all been cumbersome to use and become inaccurate very quickly during and between semesters. The new database website will hopefully put an end to those issues as well as provide even more functionalities such as a pick-up ordering system. The other personal project we are working on this semester is removing some unnecessary items from the office space that have been accumulated over the years. The UO can always use more space and with the UO possibly being phased out in the next 5 years, we will have to get rid of everything eventually, so we might as well start early.
My name is Chris Loveridge and I am the Operations Group Commander for the Fall 2020 Semester. We are responsible for training and evaluating cadets preparing for Field Training, which is a benchmark assessment within AFROTC that takes place at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. My primary role within the group is to ensure that training objectives set by AFROTC HQ are met throughout the semester. We structure our training by grouping cadets into one of seven flights that are led by trainers; these trainers have gone through Field Training preparation earlier in their AFROTC experience and have shown a strong understanding of what it takes to succeed. Cadets within these flights are referred to as GMC and can be further classified as IMT or FTP. IMT describes those that are starting their first year in the program whereas FTP describes those that are striving to attend Field Training during summer after the academic year. Rather than splitting up flights by IMT or FTP classification, we utilize blended flights during the fall semester. This means each flight has cadets from both groups with varying levels of experience within AFROTC. Ultimately, this provides FTP the ability to mentor IMT and develop their leadership skills as they themselves prepare for Field Training.

Leading up to the semester, the Operations Group created detailed plans which outlined how trainers will meet various GMC objectives. This work was split up amongst squadron staff (cadets that oversee the operations of flights) and drill and ceremonies officers. These individuals collaborated over the summer to define what specifically will be taught to cadets each week. However, COVID-19 forced us to innovate how we have previously operated within AFROTC. The Operations Group now offers an in-person and online option to each flight. For those that are able to attend in-person training, we have modified our plans to account for proper safety in accordance with University and CDC guidelines including but not limited to wearing masks, physical distancing, and symptom questionnaires. Trainers have done an outstanding job of ensuring cadets meet objectives while keeping safety the overall priority. However, the challenge has been to replicate this in-person environment for those that are online.
Trainers have been extremely creative in their efforts to ensure cadet participation and involvement in all activities. One notable example was from a flight commander, Nick Brooks, who took it upon himself to create an online simulator that allowed cadets to virtually lead a flight in drill in a very visual and interactive manner. Whether it be drill, military customs and courtesies, Field Training preparation, or any other task, members within the Operations Group have worked tirelessly to provide cadets with the necessary tools to succeed in AFROTC. We came into the semester with a clear vision: foster an environment of tolerance, creativity, and inclusiveness in order to develop independent leaders of character. Alongside my deputy, Emily Hawkins, we have been amazed by the hard work of our group. Not only have they been flexible with the ever-changing environment we find ourselves in, but they have consistently remained focused on providing the best possible training to cadets. COVID-19 may have made training more difficult, but the incredible work by members of our group has made it abundantly clear that this situation has brought the best out of our Detachment.
The Executive Group has two main functions: the first, and the largest one, is the direct operation of most of the training activities that go on outside of what’s directly in OG. This encompasses a diverse group of tasks and responsibilities. During LLAB, EXG cadets are responsible for proper use of equipment, tracking attendance & the whereabouts of all the cadets in the wing, and ensuring the safety of all participants in all mandatory ROTC activities. Outside of LLAB activities run by EXG cadets include Phase 0, PT, and GMC Nights. These outside-of-LLAB activities offer training opportunities to cadets in all levels of the wing, and all teach valuable & necessary skills.

The second function of EXG is the planning and execution of POC LLAB. POC LLAB is a very different experience, with a radically different look and feel from GMC LLAB. For the most part, the cadets in POC LLAB have already been through field training and the portions of their ROTC career focused on extremely high-stress, highly dynamic environments have also been completed. Instead, POC LLAB is about developing the leadership & practical skills that POC will need when they become officers in the United States Air Force. Strategy, Wargaming, and the ins & outs of “life in the US Air Force” are all staples of POC training. When cadets complete the program POC LLAB will have taught them how to complete many of the necessary skills of officer in the modern commissioned corps, so that they will be as prepared as possible when they enter into active service.
POSITION SPOTLIGHT: PHYSICAL FITNESS OFFICER

Written by Cadet Physical Fitness Officer, Graham Scheper

Being the PFO means being the king of all things PT, which is a big part of cadets' weekly routine. It’s a high-volume job that’s been changed greatly by the Covid-19 environment. In normal times, my responsibilities would be creating - or ensuring the creation of - a semester workout plan, managing a team of PTLs, keeping PT attendance, and running the Mock PFA and the PFA. Nowadays, because of our inability to require in-person attendance at PT, the amount of in-person PTs being held has been reduced to one weekly, and most cadets at the detachment will not attend a single session all semester.

The amount of work I have to do is greatly reduced, but the fun aspect of the job has pretty much been slashed entirely, and I’ve been forced to effectively let go of 4/5 of my PTLs, a team I was extremely happy with going into the semester. It’s not all doom and gloom though, as my deputy C/Sizenbach and I have grown to love the quirky sensibilities of Google Sheets, and my one remaining PTL C/Faccini brings his 100% to every session he runs.

One thing that is cool this semester is that we are going to be doing the Mock PFA monthly, with cadets who attend 3 or more in-person sessions being exempt. This is so that I can track how cadets are keeping in with standards - it’s not easy to trust personal PTs at face value, and cadets need to know where they are in terms of being prepared for the FA. Our first Mock PFA had pretty low scores, so I’m grateful that we’ll be having another at the end of the month, as that will allow me to track cadets’ progress. Holding an actual PFA is not off the table, and I want every cadet to be prepared as possible if we do hold one.

In short, my job right now is a lot easier than it probably would have been, but it’s also a lot less fun. I’m not the kind of person that shies away from work, which is what made this job enticing to me in the first place. Still, I can’t complain, I have a great team working above and with me, and hopefully by the end of the semester the fruits of my labours will be shown in some great PFA scores.
Hello everyone, I am Cadet Robert Robinson, and along with Cadet Zachary Pena, I lead the Maintenance Group, or MXG here at Detachment 330. Maintenance group is a vital piece of the wing structure here, as we coordinate many important activities for the cadet wing. One of our biggest responsibilities is to plan and execute our New Student Orientation. This is an event that happens every semester that we use to introduce our new cadets to ROTC life and what that entails. Another one of our big projects is Career Day. As every cadet gets closer to obtaining a commission as a Second Lieutenant, we have to fill out a dream sheet with what careers we would like to do in the Air Force. Career Day allows cadets to interact with officers in their prospective career fields and make an educated choice on what they would like to do in the Air Force. We love having guest officers here to speak to the wing and answer the questions that cadets have, as it helps prepare them for active duty. If you are an Officer in the NCAP region and would like to come speak to our wing or participate in career day, please reach out to me at my contact info below! The Maintenance Group also contains some of our most vital positions. The Technology Officer is in charge of running anything tech during Leadership Laboratory, and also serves as the main tech support person for the entire wing. We also have the Director of Recruiting in MXG. Her job is to set up recruiting events to help bring more cadets to the detachment. Finally, one of the biggest positions we have is the Pilot Training Program Officer. This cadet’s job is to oversee many different things, such as the use of simulators in our cadet lounge, helping cadets find flight schools, and helping cadets prepare for Undergraduate Pilot Training.
Hello, my name is C/Kristen Buck and I am the Mission Support Group (MSG) Commander this semester. MSG is in charge of a lot of the supplemental portions of Det 330. There are 6 different sections under MSG, they are Awards, Public Affairs, Special Projects, Commissioning, Mentorship, and MWR (Morale, Welfare, and Recreation). My job is to manage these sections and ensure their tasks get completed on time.

Awards is a smaller position, but still important. They are in charge of ensuring Monthly and Semester Award Ceremonies are prepared and signed off by respective parties. Commissioning plans and executes any necessary commissioning ceremonies that need to happen during the semester. Typically it’s just the one at the end but sometimes there are a few others. The Public Affairs Office is sort of the face of our Detachment. They run our social media accounts, publish newsletters, and create other material to highlight our detachment, such as videos and yearbooks.

The 3 larger positions under MSG are Special Projects, Mentorship, and MWR. Each semester we have a Dining In/Out. They are large scale events that take months of planning and preparation. Special Projects is in charge of ensuring these events happen. Typically, Dining In is held in the Fall, and Dining out is held in the Spring, but planning for each happens year-round. Mentorship is one of the most important parts of AFROTC. It’s how we help each other grow and develop as better leaders and wingmen. Our Mentorship Team plans and executes a Mentorship Plan for the semester that not only has mentorship events but also teaches new cadets how to be mentors. The last section under MSG is MWR. They plan and run a lot of the extracurricular activities within AFROTC. Smaller events that MWR plans include movie nights, game nights, and hiking trips. While other events that MWR plans are base visits. Last semester, a group of cadets was able to take a trip down to Pope AAF, NC. Opportunities through MSG provide a more well-rounded Detachment Experience and increase the overall morale of the Det.
The Maryland Honor Guard was formed to fill the need for Det. 330 to have a drill team. Our organization prides itself on its variety of services including: presenting and posting the colors, saber cordon and vigils. We voluntarily conduct these services at UMD sporting events, commissioning ceremonies, military weddings, and memorial/funeral services. This semester, we have held two commissioning ceremonies along with a vigil service for Maj. General Rosenker's memorial service. We are planning vigil services with UMD's Memorial Chapel this Veteran's Day along with attending future commissioning's as they occur. COVID has prevented our organization from performing at our usual capacity for UMD sporting events, but our members are nevertheless enthusiastic and ready to perform their duties. Our training program, Induction Class, was canceled this semester due to high numbers of interest. We do plan to hold a Spring Class while maintaining all safety and health precautions.
AAS is a professional, honorary, service organization advocating the support of aerospace power. The "service" aspect is what our organization is most known for because of our organizations continued contributions to our campuses and our communities. The primary mission of Arnold Air Society is to improve our selves as future officers in the Air Force as well as individuals. We have three major objectives in this organization. Our main objective is to create a more efficient relationship among all Air Force officer candidates especially in AFROTC. Our second objective is to provide more opportunities for Air Force candidates to participate in and show leadership, management, organizational, and public relations skills. The third objective that our organization strives toward is to provide opportunities for officer candidates to participate in campus and community service activities, which allows them to demonstrate the close relationship between civilian and military institutions. We try our best to help our community in any way that we can, whether that be food sorting, community renovations, or even park clean-ups. For example, one semester our squadron went to a Senior center and helped them rebuild their gardens and outdoor areas. AAS helps cadets refine the skills that they learn in ROTC to make them better officers in the Air Force and to make them into a stronger leader. Since COVID hit our squadron has been trying to focus more on community outreach and try our best to help out areas that seem to be struggling.

If you are interested in joining AAS you will have to go through a 13 week training program called Candidate Class, where you will have a class or team to work with to complete tasks, training, and assignments given to you by your trainers. These classmates will become some of your closest friends, as you will go through a unique experience together and develop a special bond.
Hello, I’m C/Capt Tanner Schooley and I am the Phase 0 Commander. My mission is to prepare cadets who are interested in going into a Special Operations career field like STO, CRO and TACP. STO’s are Special Tactics Officers, these are the guys who are out in the field as operators carrying out classified missions. CROs are Combat Rescue Officers, these guys fly in helicopters and help wounded soldiers get back to base in one piece. TACPs are the people who call in airstrikes on the enemy from the ground, they are often paired with army. These three career fields go through a pipeline known as Phase I and Phase II. Phase II is what I’m trying to prepare cadets for. It is a two-week evaluation with intense physical and mental challenges. My main responsibility is to come up with weekly workouts that are more intense than regular PT, as well as give cadets the resources they need to be successful. One big event that all Phase 0 Commanders have to organize is called Extended Training Day (ETD). This is an event in which real STOs, CROs, TACPs lead a half day workout full of ground and pool-based exercises. Planning this needs to be done months in advance because most active duty are very busy. For example, I started at the middle of August and I planned it for the middle of November. I work closely with the Physical Fitness Officer who is in charge of the fitness aspect of ROTC.