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| **Reviewer Comment** | **Response** | **Page no. where change was made**  |
| This is a really interesting and engaging reflective commentary on newfaculty members' experiences of adjusting to higher education life amidstthe many challenges of COVID-19. While this commentary will be of interestto the journal's readership there are some ways in which the authors couldimprove the paper:1) stating who the intended audience is and the overall aim/ objective ofthe paper is in the first paragraph;2) providing some background context for international readers in theopening section, e.g. national/ state location of the authors? professionalbackgrounds - registered social workers? Keep in mind the paper will be readby an international audience not familiar with the US social work context3) integrating more teaching/ pedagogical scholarship to support theirreflections - I've indicated a couple of spots where this would bebeneficial on the manuscript.I enjoyed reading this and several of the comments resonated with my owncurrent experiences as a 'mid-career' social work scholar.  | Thank you for taking the time to review our commentary. We have carefully read your comments and incorporated them in our paper. Our detailed responses are included below besides each comment. Thank you for this suggestion. We have now added information on the intended audience alongside the main objective in the first paragraph as suggested. Thank you for your suggestion. We have added some contextual information for readers in the opening section. Thank you for your comment. We have responded to the comments in our paper and integrated more teaching/pedagogical scholarship strategies to support our reflections. Thank you for taking the time to review our commentary and helping us strengthen it with your invaluable comments.  | Throughout the commentary. Page 1 (within the “COVID-19 and academia” paragraph). Page 1 (within the “our positionalities, roles and preparation for the Autumn/Fall semester” paragraph). Pages 2-7 (within the “getting the publications,” “teaching virtually” and conclusion sections. N/A |