Daniel Leon

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Southern New Hampshire University

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**Sprint Review and Retrospective**

Our scrum master and product owner held a meeting with our client to discuss what exactly it is that they want us to do for them. As a representative of SNHU Travel, our client stated that they wanted to expand and begin to offer trendy niche vacation packages. Our scrum master went ahead and assembled our team, developed an agile team charter, and helped set up scrum events such as sprints, daily scrums, backlog refinement, etc.

Our product owner talked with some of SNHU Travel’s most frequent customers for insight on what it is that they would like to see from the company. They mentioned things like having a top five or ten destinations recommendation based on individual user’s profiles and price range. Our product owner then developed requirements for the backlog based on these recommendations and created user stories based on these requirements. Our tester emailed our product owner for clarification on some details concerning the user stories, like if the top destinations would all be listed on one page or navigated through as a slideshow. He then developed test cases based on these user stories, and our developer started work based on these stories and test cases.

SNHU Travel management held an additional meeting with our product owner to request possible changes to the project. Our client wanted these niche packages to be primarily focused on detox/wellness vacations. Our product owner then got with the team to discuss these new features to figure out how to implement them into an already-in-motion project. Our tester agreed that it would be possible to update his test cases, and our product owner decided to deprioritize other user stories in the product backlog in order to focus on these new features and still stay on the originally agreed upon schedule.

Our developer emailed our tester and product owner for clarification on these updates and changes. She wanted to know if we were to focus on a specific type of wellness vacation retreat, such as yoga destinations, or do we advertise a wide variety of options. Also, would this type of vacation destination be all of what we are offering with our niche packages, or do we create another filter option. The team then moved forward with the project.

By using the agile approach, the team was able to treat each user story as its own mini project to work towards the larger picture in increments. This helped us to focus on each detail with more care and foresee any possible issues before moving forward. We developed filter options for types of vacations and also specific price ranges. We also developed links for the top five and ten destinations from most to least popular. When changes were requested, we able to adapt easily with the agile approach by updating test cases and deprioritizing other stories to stay on schedule. We communicated through email about specific details for clarification to ensure that we were all on the same page. By being very specific about what was expected of us, we were able to collaborate on each user story and new feature and ultimately provide our client with exactly what they wanted.

One of the key focal points in our approach to this project was the 7th principle from the Agile Manifesto, “Working software is the primary measure of progress” (Beck et al., 2001). We wanted our primary focus to be on the quality of the finished product and customer experience. Also, by paying close attention to client needs, we were able to minimize price and delivery times by working together every step of the way to ensure the best solutions to problems and reduce the likelihood of having to backtrack. Sprints and daily scrums with the team kept everyone up to date with any issues or changes and allowed for more efficient progress.

Personally, I haven’t noticed any cons in the agile approach when it came to this particular project. One of the major pros was working with the client closely every step of the way. When they requested a change/new feature in the middle of the project, we were able to adapt easily due to the flexibility of the agile approach. By breaking the project down into increments such as sprints based on different user stories, we were able to incorporate this new request without disrupting our schedule. Daily scrums played a huge role in keeping the team all on the same page throughout the course of this project.

I think that the Scrum-agile approach was definitely the best approach when it came to the SNHU Travel development project. Keeping our client in the loop every step of the way allowed us to deliver exactly what they wanted, even with new requests we were able to adapt.

**References**

Beck, K., et al. (2001). The Agile Manifesto. Agile Alliance.

<http://agilemanifesto.org/principles.html>