CS-250

Journal Week 2

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***Directions***

*In this first journal assignment, you will think about your work as the Scrum Master and how you might lead your team for the SNHU Travel project. In your journal, address the following questions:*

*How would you plan to execute the various Scrum events, such as the Sprint Planning, Daily Scrums, Backlog Refinement, Sprint Review, and Sprint Retrospective? (Rubric Reflections)*

*Sprint Planning* would first be broken down into key deliverables with the product owner to establish what the vision for the project is and what the expected changes would look like to ensure concise work in alignment with the vision. Once these priorities are established, *Sprint Planning* would be working with the development team to begin organizing the project deliverable sequencing and identifying any early blocking issues. Having that done, the team would spend about 1 hour on moving the work Kanban into the upcoming sprint and then queueing responsible persons individual Kanban’s to support the work.

Once planning is complete, D*aily Scrums* would be held first order of business each day lasting about 15 minutes to discuss blocking issues and move new tasking into the active from the sprint Kanban’s as work completes. Issues that arise outside the team can then be taken on by the scrum master, a servant leader, to ensure the issues are dealt with appropriately and minimize the impacts to the team whenever possible. **(Overeem, 2016)** (Rubric Problem Solving)

*Backlog Refinement* is a continuous process that will be worked on continuously as the project progresses, perhaps taking 10 minutes each day after the daily scrum if necessary to organize newly identified tasks and to help prioritize if required. **(Scrum Guide | Scrum Guides, n.d.)**

*Sprint Reviews* will be scheduled for early afternoon on Fridays for 30 minutes to gather together with the product owner to discuss the progress made so far, and address any challenges that have come up or are anticipated before the next sprint starts.

*Sprint retrospectives* will follow the sprint review for the team to discuss what worked well, work loading and what needs improvement. **(Scrum Guide | Scrum Guides, n.d.)** In these retrospectives, the team will be encouraged to talk about their successes first, and then challenges to leverage processes that are shown to work and attempt their applications in situations that are creating challenges. (Rubric Reflections, Communications)

*What is one benefit for each of the five events listed above?*

* Sprint planning – Teams sign up for work rather than being assigned – creates ownership
* Daily Scrums – Daily check-ins to ensure daily progress is made and blockers removed
* Backlog Refinement – Allows new tasks to be thought about in advance, info gathered
* Sprint Review – Ensures product owner aligned with each work phase as completed
* Sprint Retrospective – Allows for organic process refinement towards productivity

*What is the overall benefit of this process for the team?*

Scrum helps to break down big tasks into smaller work that can help individuals focus on something achievable and not get lost in the details of the whole. Additionally, it keeps the product owner closely intertwined with the work to ensure the outputs are effective and course corrections can occur early in the process. Knowing the backlog is organize helps everyone feel an overall sense of direction and helps to prevent context thrashing bouncing between many topics that may not yet be relevant. Review and retrospective allow the process to evolve towards a balance of expectations while also ensuring focused productivity. (Rubric Communications)

*What steps can you take to ensure the team meets the goals of each of these events?*

Staying on topic for each event is the key to having the individual events be effective. It’s easy to get off into the weeds about things that didn’t go well, or what we might like to see change for a given circumstance. As Scrum Master, the main step to ensure the team meets the goals, is to keep the events on topic and on-time while maintaining respect and accountability in addition to other core values (**Overeem, 2016).** There is an opportunity for all inputs to be raised and discussed, they just need to happen according to the events where they are relevant unless they are actively creating a hardship. **(Overeem, 2016)**

Citations

1. *Scrum Guide | Scrum Guides*. (n.d.). Scrumguides.org. [https://scrumguides.org/scrum-guide.html](https://scrumguides.org/scrum-guide.html#the-sprint)
2. Overeem, B. (2016, April 15). *Characteristics of a Great Scrum Team*. InfoQ. <https://www.infoq.com/articles/great-scrum-team/>