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Software Development Lifecycle

ChadaTech Final Project

Sprint Review and Retrospective

With the SNHU Travel Project in our hands, our team was able to quickly adopt and implement the Scrum-Agile approach which ultimately led to the success of the project. With each role being defined extremely well, communication and overall flexibility were major strengths that allowed us to make effective progress daily and keep momentum. The Scrum Master primarily promoted communication amongst the team and addressed obstacles to keep the team both focused and efficient. The Product Owner ensured the most important features were prioritized in order to be developed first. And the Development Team collaborated and completed tasks daily with each member's strengths being intelligently applied.

The Scrum-Agile method is structured in a way that allows our team to correctly dissect the information into smaller manageable tasks, making each user story much more effective. Progress across the board was much easier to track, therefore the definition of “done” was no longer as broad as it had previously been. Additionally, if new features were to be requested during a sprint, it would no longer disrupt the team's momentum which shows the approach's adaptability. This exact ability is a key strength as interruptions almost felt nonexistent.

The change of requirements throughout the project did not lead to absolute chaos nor a heavily altered workload before the deadline. With each significant change that arose throughout the project, sprint planning sessions and backlog sessions were scheduled and had. This led us to adjust what we needed with the flexibility provided and properly adapt to the change we were facing without the loss of momentum. Effective communication was also extremely important during this stage so regular stand-ups, sprint reviews, and sprint retrospectives were also very crucial.

Along with the Agile process, organizational tools such as JIRA and Confluence played a great role in steering the project towards overall success. These tools provided additional transparency and efficiency as they not only allowed us to track progress but also manage the backlog. With JIRA, user stories were able to be accounted for as it helped sprint goals be met consistently through the identification of bottlenecks early on. As for Confluence, easy access to the latest information during sprint reviews and retrospectives was made possible. The integration of these tools truly improved our collaboration and kept the project well-organized throughout its entirety.

As I evaluated the Scrum-Agile framework and its effectiveness, I found it had many pleasing advantages such as the flexibility to adapt to changing requirements and continuous feedback from stakeholders. However, with every advantage comes a disadvantage and some challenges such as scope creep began to arise. This required careful attention and in order to combat it, we revised our project goals frequently and maintained our focus on prioritization during sprint planning sessions. Despite the challenges that arose, the Scrum-Agile best fit what we needed for our SNHU Travel project. This all allowed us to deliver the high-quality product we had envisioned from the start while also filling the stakeholders' needs.

When preparing to present our methodology to leadership, it is extremely important to address the key aspects of the Scrum-Agile approach. The importance should primarily be placed on each role such as Scrum Master, Product Owner, and Development Team but key phases should also be visited thoroughly. These phases include planning, developing, testing, and reviewing. Clear collaboration, quick decision-making, flexibility, and regular stakeholder feedback should be emphasized as they are the factors that really drive the methodology towards success.

In comparing the Agile approach to the Waterfall model, the differences are quite significant. The Waterfall model consists of following a strict linear progression in which each phase must be completed before the next may be started. This structure makes it incredibly difficult to work with when changes are applied whilst the project is already underway. As an example, if we had used the Waterfall model rather than the Agile approach, a late request would significantly impact the project. This request could lead to hours on end of rework due to delays and a late project along with increased costs. The Agile approach completely avoids this as it allows for continuous work and improvement through its adaptability.

Whilst choosing between Waterfall and Agile may be quite clear for some, you must consider several factors before selecting your approach. These factors include stakeholder involvement, project complexity, and the likelihood of changes being made throughout. Now as for the SNHU Travel Project, I strongly believe the Agile approach was the right direction to go with. In conclusion, the Scrum-Agile approach enables teams to deliver a high-quality product on time due to its adaptability. It provides focus through roles, and flexibility throughout its entire lifespan, and promotes communication.