

Chada Tech Sprint Review & Analysis

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Throughout the length of this course, I have assumed the roles of Scrum Master, Product Owner, Developer, and Tester. For this review, I will be writing from the perspective of Master. I have explored each role thoroughly and will do my best to justify the importance of each one.

The Review

The SNHU Travel Project Sprint was a complete success, and greatly due to the recent implementation of the Agile approach. Throughout the sprint, modifications were requested from a few of our more valued customers, then were tackled with relative ease. If we had been following our traditional waterfall process, each individual request would have resulted in a fairly sizeable setback. Our very capable Scrum Team managed this sprint like the professionals that they are and finished the sprint with little to no issues. Each member of this team played a critical and valuable role.

Product Owner

If not for the Product Owner's valuable input, the team's plan and overall organization would be in woeful disarray. Our Product Owner was responsible for the planning process that the team would follow, not an easy task considering the recent shift to Agile development. They formatted the user requests into goals/stories that could be plausibly accomplished by the team. Many of the requests made by the users were vague or contradictory, so it was the responsibility the

Owner to track down clarification via the appropriate channels to establish a clear outline as to what the team was expected to complete, as well as estimate the timeline that would be required.

Developer Team

The most valuable asset to any sprint, a development team is meant to be the metaphorical meat and potatoes of any project, ultimately the burden of completion rests on their collective shoulders, and my team absolutely did not disappoint. They completed this sprint smoothly as you could hope for and will operate as proof that the agile system is the most ideal workflow for the modern workspace. They communicated with each other throughout the process, and due to agile, when faced with uncertainty or setbacks, could steam roll the problem. They were given notice that our efforts should be refocused on ‘Detox’ vacation destinations, well after the programming had been finished for that sprint goal. Thanks to agile, and more importantly the team utilizing it, they sliced through any bureaucratic mess and reprogrammed it with no issues. This team is a group of well-trained professionals, and they handled themselves as such.

Product Tester

The product testers are the sanctioned last line of defense between back end and front end. They are what stand before the customer, which is a valuable role to have. It is easy to overlook what they do, but it should not be an easy task to do their job. They are hired to find holes in the armor created by the developers, and it is the development teams’ responsibility to create armor without holes. They are coworkers that are designed to work against each other for the sake of a stronger product. They are integral to the process and did phenomenally during this sprint. They were given a wide berth to operate on this specific project, and they both created and thoroughly revised 3 cases for testing. They definitely suffered the least with the shift into agile development, but their work has been great, and they should be proud.

SCRUM Master

My own humble role, where it was my job to parent this wonderful group of people for this sprint. Much like parenting, this job is not to simply control, but rather guide them to be the greatest version of themselves. I credit the team, owner, and testers for the finished product, but it was I who put them on the correct tracks and re-corrected them when necessary. I like to think that I had an influence on their operation within agile being so smooth. The reasoning is that agile can only be utilized with communication, where it should take place often but naturally. My job is to create those pathways to communicate through, and it is to make sure that those said pathways are maintained by those who need to use them. For example, at one point, a letter was sent to the product owner requesting clarification of what some of the customers' intentions were from the focus group, as a few suggestions were vague. The burden of clarification was not on the customers, and it was given to us shortly by the product owner. Agile promotes communication, and this could have been a substantial issue if that pathway wasn't open so readily, which would've been a little restricted in waterfall development. Outside of that, it was my responsibility to speak with those inaccessible to the team personally, i.e. the customers, the higher ups, as well as any broad planning committee outside the range of our sprint. I would often be the ambassador between my team and those they needed to reach. It was not an easy task, but it was a fulfilling one.

In Summary

Agile Development is a system that was designed for the modern programming career. Especially in this post-Covid world we live in, where the workplace has largely transitioned online. Communication should be prioritized now more than ever, and not in the number of

zoom meetings (as they happen far too often in my experience) but rather the freedom to speak to whoever needs to hear it. Employees need to be granted as much freedom as possible and allowed to operate in their own distinct ways. Too long has the modern workplace held itself to a traditional and rather poorly aged standard, it is time to evolve to a new system of working, one that values teamwork above all else, which has been proven time and time again to be the most efficient way to produce results. This course has been very insightful, and I am glad to have taken it.