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*SNHU Travel* Project - Sprint Review and Retrospective

*ChadaTech* is a company which specializes in custom software design and development for both domestic and international clients. Although this is a rapidly changing business where stakeholders desires can (and, likely, will) evolve over time, we at *ChadaTech* have relied on a sequential, waterfall development model for many years. *ChadaTech* has recognized this model as a potential point of weakness and has opted to test the Scrum-Agile approach with my development team as we develop an application for our clients at *SNHU Travel.* Although there was a slight learning curve due to the adoption of a new methodology, having completed the current Sprint, I am glad to report that this newfound approach was ultimately beneficial to the project’s completion. For the remainder of this retrospective, I will explain the basics of the Scrum-Agile approach as well as how this approach was implemented in the project’s completion. This retrospective will be instrumental as our team moves into the next sprint as well as provide a guideline for other teams at *ChadaTech* as they join us in the transition to the agile methodology.

The Scrum Methodology focuses on four distinct roles: the Product Owner, the Scrum Master (myself), the development team, and the stakeholders. In the *SNHU Travel* project, the product owner was responsible for managing and prioritizing the product backlog. This proved instrumental in ensuring which features, or user stories, were prioritized. These user stories were subsequently incorporated into the *SNHU Travel* application by the development team. Meanwhile, as the Scrum Master, I encouraged effective communication and removed any difficulties that arose. I accomplished this by encouraging the Daily Stand-up meetings which provided a method in which team members could share progress and discuss any challenges which they’ve encountered. As the Scrum Master, I also encouraged the team to utilize the collaborative resource tool known as *Jira Software. Jira Software* was an information radiator which allowed the development team to visualize progress which encouraged seamless communication. These collaborative tools proved essential in ensuring the development team’s ultimate success. After all, *Jira Software* was also instrumental in helping the Product Owner create and prioritize the aforementioned user stories. Speaking of the Product Owner, another role which they accomplished was completed through regular interactions with the stakeholders at *SNHU Travel*. These meetings ensured any and all requirements were integrated into the project as they emerged. An example of this can be found, when *SNHU Travel* realized they wanted their booking tool to focus on detox/wellness travel opportunities. The Product Owner was informed of these changes who subsequently informed the entire team, which allowed the new parameter to be incorporated into the project without significant delay. These roles were a product of the Scrum-agile approach which, ultimately, proved instrumental in the completion of the project.

The aforementioned roles that each Team Member undertook was especially crucial to the successful completion of user stories. For example, the Product Owner initially created the user stories which were prioritized and sent to the development team. As the Scrum Master, I facilitated the Daily Stand-Ups which assigned the responsibilities necessary for completing these user stories to each member of the development team. Because the user stories were prioritized by order of importance, the team was able to utilize an iterative development cycle. This cycle allowed the team to show the developed software to the Product Owner throughout the Sprint which helped provide feedback that was used to further improve the software. As mentioned in the previous paragraph, this continuous feedback loop extended to the stakeholders at *SNHU Travel* who were able to consistently provide immediate feedback to the Product Owner and, by extension, the development team. This communication was especially important when the development process was interrupted by the introduction of *SNHU Travel*’s desire to focus on detox/wellness travel opportunities. After all, only through continuous feedback was *SNHU Travel* able to realize this new parameter and have the development team implement it in a timely manner.

In conclusion, while there was a slight learning curve due to the adoption of a new methodology, the Scrum-Agile approach that was utilized during the *SNHU Travel* project was ultimately beneficial to the project’s completion. Therefore, I believe *ChadaTech* should have more teams switch to a more agile-based approach.

Works Cited

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