Michael Barbuzano

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Final Project

**(Explain how the various roles on the scrum team specifically contribute to the success of the SNHU travel project)**

The product owner oversees confirming that the scrum team aligns with the product goals. The product owner specializes in getting a understanding of the desired product, from a business perspective. Product owners are responsible for communicating with the client as well as other stakeholders. A good example of this is seen in the “initial client meeting animation ppt” in module 2. During the initial client meeting the president of SNHU travel communicates to the product owner what exactly she would like to be developed as well as the purpose they intend to use it for. After gaining a good understanding of the desired product from the client, the product owner will then begin to create and prioritize the product backlog. The product backlog is a prioritized list of functionalities that the final product should achieve, it serves as a “connection between the product owner and the development team”.

The scrum master is responsible for ensuring that the scrum team is functioning as efficiently as possible, considering scrum core values. The scrum master does this by working with the development team to set effective goals for each sprint to keep the team on track. The scrum master for the SNHU travel project receives product requirements from the product owner, as seen on the “team animation PDF” in module 5. The product owner had just recently mentioned a feature change for the final product. After the scrum master consulted with the product owner, it was decided that the deadline would not be moved, because the development team is operating in an Agile work environment, they should be able to adjust to change while not moving the deadline back. In situations like this, it is up to the scrum master to create efficient sprint goals, considering new requested changes for the final product. By doing so, the scrum master can keep the team on track to complete the project at the desired deadline. These goals are facilitated to the team during sprint planning.

The developers on a scrum team are tasked with achieving the sprint goals while working towards the overall product goal. Developers work with the scrum leader and product owner to determine appropriate sprint goals. By working in sprints, the developers can adapt to change more easily, as each sprint objective is incremental to the overall project. A good example of this from the SNHU travel project is when the client had requested a change to one of the features of the software, so that the travel company could adapt to a change in the travel market. The client requested that the top five travel locations listed on the application be changed to a top five detox/wellness travel locations.

The tester is responsible for determining if “different features within a system are performing as expected and to confirm that the system satisfies all related standards, guidelines and customer requirements”. One key responsibility of the tester that was exemplified in the SNHU travel project was the tester working with the product owner to create test cases. The product owner creates the user stories, and the tester uses this information to create test cases to assure that each increment of progress of the development team is meeting the acceptance criteria to deliver the desired product to the client.

**(Describe how a scrum approach to the SDLC helped each of the user stories come to completion)**

When using a scrum approach in the software development life cycle the development team will discuss what user stories will be worked on in the following sprint during a sprint planning meeting. During this time, development teams discuss the requirements and functionality that each user story requires. This provides an opportunity for the team to devise a creative and technical implementation of each user story.

**(Describe how scrum agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction, when they decided to change the top five list)**

When the top five list change was requested by the client, the product owner decided not to alter the original deadline, as the team is using a scrum agile approach, they should be able to adapt. One of the most significant benefits of scrum agile is the increased priority of communication. By allowing for more effective communication the product owner was able to understand the changes to the product that the client needed. The product owner was then able to deliver that information to the scrum master and development team, so that they can decide how to best tackle this change in the finished product. By utilizing scrum events such as sprint planning, the development team can effectively problem solve as a team to best overcome any challenges, such as this change to the top five list. The tester was able to update the test cases to include the new product requirements and the developer was able to review their current feature implementation progress to decide how long it would take to adapt the software for the new changes.

(Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing examples of your communication)

In the module 5 journal, we were tasked with writing an email to the product owner and the tester, from the perspective of the developer. This is a good example of my ability to communicate with team members. When I wrote the email to the product owner, I made sure to request all of the necessary information, such as the full requirements for the project, as well as important deadlines. I then created an email to send to the tester, attaching all relevant information that was sent from the product owner, as the tester needs to know and understand the product requirements so that they can effectively develop tests during the software development lifecycle.

**(Evaluate the organizational tools and scrum agile principles that helped your team be successful)**

I think the most significant scrum agile principle is collaboration. The scrum agile methodology places a huge priority on collaboration and communication amongst team members. Collaboration and communication are further enabled by scrum events such as the daily scrum, where team members gather to have an open discussion about the current and upcoming sprint. This priority on communication and collaboration combined with tools such as scrum events are very beneficial for assuring that the team will be successful on any given project.

**(Assess the effectiveness of the scrum agile approach for the SNHU travel project)**

Based on what I have learned throughout this course, agile is more effective than waterfall when working on projects that require incremental progress or projects that require experimenting with multiple ideas with an end goal that is not 100% set in stone. The waterfall methodology can be more effective “when a project must meet strict regulations as it requires deliverables for each phase before proceeding to the next one”. Because of this, I believe that Scrum-Agile was the appropriate choice for the SNHU travel project, as it did require experimentation with some features, as well as adapting to change of client needs and requirements.

Works Cited

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