**Sprint Review and Retrospective**

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**Applying Roles**

In the ChadaTech pilot project for SNHU Travel, our Scrum-Agile team developed a new detox and wellness vacation booking application. As the Product Owner, my role centered on representing the client’s needs, managing the product backlog, and ensuring that the team’s work aligned with SNHU Travel’s business objectives. This involved prioritizing user stories based on stakeholder value and maintaining communication with the Scrum Master and development team.

The Scrum Master facilitated sprint events, removed impediments, and helped uphold Agile principles. The development team collaborated to implement and test features, while the tester verified that product increments met the Definition of Done. Together, these roles contributed to our ability to adapt to changing requirements while maintaining productivity. For example, when SNHU Travel requested a shift in focus to “detox/wellness” vacations mid-project, I restructured the backlog to prioritize these features and deprioritized nonessential tasks, allowing us to maintain sprint timelines without derailing progress.

Schwaber and Sutherland (2020) emphasize that the Product Owner’s accountability for maximizing product value requires dynamic backlog management and close collaboration with the team. This was evident in our project’s success in refocusing development without needing to reset the entire plan.

**Completing User Stories**

Throughout the sprint cycles, user stories served as the foundation for planning and execution. For example, a user story such as “As a traveler, I want to search for wellness retreats by location and duration so that I can easily plan my trip” helped the team focus on delivering small, incremental features that were both testable and valuable.

By applying Agile principles, we completed these user stories using an iterative approach, conducting sprint reviews to demonstrate progress and collect feedback. Agile’s focus on continuous delivery ensured that we could deliver a functioning prototype after each sprint. As the Product Owner, I evaluated completed stories for acceptance criteria compliance before marking them as “done,” ensuring that the outcomes met SNHU Travel’s strategic objectives.

According to Dingsøyr et al. (2019), iterative story-based development enhances customer engagement and allows for continuous value delivery, which was a key factor in the success of our wellness-focused application.

**Handling Interruptions**

During the project, the team encountered a major interruption when SNHU Travel’s management requested a pivot to focus on detox/wellness travel. Initially, this change created concern among team members, as some feared that prior work might need to be discarded. However, the Agile framework allowed us to adapt efficiently.

By revisiting the product backlog, I was able to reorder priorities, deprioritize unrelated stories, and maintain sprint schedules despite the shift. The Scrum Master facilitated discussions to refocus the team, ensuring morale remained high and that everyone understood the updated objectives. This demonstrated the Agile principle of “responding to change over following a plan” (Agile Alliance, 2021).

As shown in the ChadaTech scenario, Agile adaptability enabled us to continue progress despite shifting client demands a major advantage over the rigidity of traditional Waterfall methodologies

**Communication**

Effective communication was essential to maintaining collaboration and alignment throughout the sprint. We used daily stand-up meetings, sprint reviews, and retrospectives to ensure transparency. For example, when the project’s focus changed, I communicated SNHU Travel’s new direction clearly and provided a rationale to help the team understand the business context.

Open dialogue allowed the Scrum Master and developers to voice challenges and propose feasible adjustments, fostering shared ownership. According to Serrador and Pinto (2021), continuous communication in Agile teams improves decision-making quality and accelerates issue resolution. By maintaining open feedback channels, we were able to sustain team cohesion and meet sprint goals even during times of uncertainty.

**Organizational Tools**

Our team utilized several Scrum organizational tools to ensure workflow visibility and accountability. The Product Backlog captured all user stories and evolving requirements, while the Sprint Backlog outlined tasks for each iteration. The Burndown Chart provided real-time insights into sprint progress, helping the Scrum Master identify potential bottlenecks early.

We also used collaboration tools such as Trello for backlog visualization and Slack for communication. These tools supported the Agile values of transparency and adaptation. Rigby et al. (2020) note that visual management systems in Agile environments enhance both team focus and stakeholder engagement, an observation that aligned with our experience on this project.

**Evaluating the Agile Process**

The Scrum-Agile approach proved to be highly effective for the SNHU Travel project. Its iterative nature allowed us to deliver incremental value, maintain adaptability, and ensure stakeholder involvement throughout development. The pros included faster feedback cycles, improved team collaboration, and greater responsiveness to changing requirements. The cons, however, involved the potential for scope creep and increased reliance on effective communication.

Comparatively, a Waterfall approach would have required us to finalize requirements before development began, making it far less flexible in accommodating SNHU Travel’s new business direction. Because Agile emphasizes adaptability and continuous feedback, it ultimately proved more suitable for the company’s fast-paced, innovation-driven goals.

Based on this experience, I recommend that ChadaTech transition all development teams to a Scrum-Agile approach, as it enhances both product quality and organizational resilience in a rapidly changing market environment. Research supports this conclusion, with Conforto et al. (2022) finding that Agile teams outperform traditional teams in environments characterized by uncertainty and innovation demands.

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