Team 18 - Sprint Retrospective

Study Buddy

What went well?

Communication

As a team, we found time to work together and everyone showed up at the stand up meetings. We communicated our ideas effectively and helped each other with various parts of the user stories.

User Interface

Learning to use Android Studio took some time, but after the initial learning, we were able to implement a user interface with little difficulty. The user interface is functioning and linked, allowing basic navigation.

Backend

Learning Python and how to implement our Django server and database went as planned. The server and database were both built efficiently and relatively quickly, allowing the storage of various data.

What did not go well?

Backend-to-Frontend Connectivity

Our major issue with Sprint 1 was failing to connect the front-end with the backend. A few of our user stories were not fully implemented, simply because our user interface could not acquire data from the database. This wasn’t a problem with one group or the other, but a lack of communication and understanding. Our few incomplete user stories could have been fixed by making a simple connection between the two teams.

Authentication

Authentication ran into some unforeseen difficulty due to the Purdue CAS system. Most of these were issues beyond our control, however we failed to think outside the box in order to adapt and accomplish our user story in a different manner.

Procrastination

While procrastination wasn't a huge problem, it did play a small role in our group's failing to complete all user stories. This was mainly due to other obligations such as different classes or work, but failing to allocate more time to our project earlier in the sprint was a mistake.

Unsuccessful User Stories

1. As a user, I want to be able to manage my profile (bio, etc.):
   This user story was mostly completed, however our failure to establish connection between the frontend and the database didn't allow us to store any data for the user.
2. As a user, I want to be able to enter a short bio to describe myself:
   Again, this was unsuccessful because we were not able to store user data in the database.
3. As a user, I want to be able to login using my Purdue email and password:
   This was unsuccessful due to unforeseen circumstances and difficulties the Purdue CAS authentication.
4. As a user, I want to enter my current classes:
   Similar to numbers one and two, this was unsuccessful because of a lack of a connection between the frontend and the database.
5. As a user, I want to be able to enter classes that I'm not currently taking:
   Same as above.

How should you improve?

Establish connection between frontend and backend

Our lack of any sort of connection between the frontend and backend caused most of our problems. Establishing this connection earlier will not only allow us to communicate and work together more as a team instead of being more separated. Doing this will also let us do in-depth testing of more features, allowing us to work out more bugs and get things functioning quicker.

Avoid procrastination

Though we cannot obviously focus all our attention on this single project, we can make a better effort to accomplish more earlier in the sprint. Doing so will allow more time for us to adjust if we encounter unexpected problems or issues. Avoiding procrastination will also allow us

to focus on the finer points and details of each user story, since we will have more time at the end of the sprint.

Be prepared to adapt

As mentioned above, we ran into unforeseen issues with the user authentication using the Purdue Career Account Services. One way we can improve is if we encounter similar difficulties in future sprints, we can make an effort to find other ways to accomplish the same task. For example, using an email to the user's Purdue account would allow us to achieve the same goal in a similar or possibly easier manner. Making a deliberate effort to adapt when difficulties arise can make future sprints more efficient.