Module 3 Journal

Evan Nagy

SNHU

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**What benefits can you gain by engaging with users or stakeholders?**

By engaging with users or stakeholders you can retrieve relevant information about how your product needs to improve. If you did not engage with these people, then you would have to make assumptions about what they want or need. This will lead to an inefficient use of time and resources, and you start to haphazardly struggle with problems that may not exist. There is also the question of ownership. If you engage these people with the development process, then you will give them a feeling of ownership in how the company operates. This will help increase stakeholder satisfaction.

**Reflect on the User Stories assignment in this module. How can user stories help the Scrum Team?**

User Stories help the scrum team understand exactly why certain aspects of an application is being asked for. If a developer is just simply asked to create an application without understanding the context behind it. They may simply write it off as unimportant and prioritize other aspects of their application. Therefore, it is imperative to keep the lines of communication open. As well as, keeping all available contextual information needed to help make a developer understand the broader picture of what they are trying to create.

**How did the interviews/user meetings help in writing these user stories?**

Getting the exact words from the stakeholders helped me to parse out key ideas. It may take a few times to go through the exact words. However, a plethora of concerns can be addressed from these interviews. It also helps encourage further discussion in these meetings if questions and concerns are addressed and encouraged in person and not through a 3rd party.

**What other methods for collecting feedback are needed to build the user stories?**

Other methods of feedback can include: surveys and questionnaires, usability tests, feedback forms and analytics