Caitlin Cabrera

CS-250

Instructor Chataut

August 15, 2024

**Sprint Review & Retrospective**

In the recent assignments I have worked on, the Scrum-Agile team’s success was largely due to the effective collaboration of each role. The product owner prioritized the backlog, ensuring we focused on high-value features that would align with the stakeholder's needs. An example of successful collaboration is last week's discussion post, working as a team to determine which Agile practice would best suit our needs. Each of us gave input on why our recommended practices would benefit the team and, in the end, we came together to decide on which practice to go with before the deadline. The Scrum Master played a crucial role in removing any impediments and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. They organized daily stand-ups and retrospectives, where we identified and addressed any issues or miscommunication promptly, and the development team worked together to show where improvements needed to be made.

In the Scrum-Agile approach, user stories were completed efficiently through iterative development and continuous feedback. For example, when the client changed their mind about the vacation packages and wanted it to be about “detox and wellness” vacations we were able to promptly make changes to the slideshow based on their feedback. The product owner provided clear acceptance criteria, ensuring the team understood the requirements. The development team broke down the user story into smaller tasks, such as updates and testing. Daily stand-ups facilitated communication, allowing us to quickly address any issues. Mid-sprint we conducted a demo slideshow for the stakeholders. The slideshows included different vacation spots with a photo to show the destination and a short description. This iterative process allowed us to make necessary adjustments.

At one point we encountered an interruption, the stakeholders wanted to make changes to the vacation packages being offered. Using the Scrum-Agile approach, we managed to make those changes effectively. The Scrum Master facilitated a last-minute meeting where we were all able to ask clarifying questions about the stakeholders' requirements for the project. The product owner quickly redefined the user stories to align with the new direction. For instance, we shifted focus from developing a new feature to enhancing an existing one based on user feedback. The development team adapted by reallocating tasks and leveraging their cross-functional skills to meet the new objectives. This flexibility ensured that, despite the interruption, we were able to deliver a valuable increment by the end of the sprint, demonstrating the resilience and adaptability of the Scrum-Agile framework.

Effective communication was key to our success, utilizing daily stand-ups, sprint reviews, and retrospectives allowed everyone to get a say in what was next or what had been completed. Allowing everyone to be heard throughout this project was a main priority to ensure we were all on the same page. Using those communication practices was effective because they promoted transparency, kept everyone up-to-date, and encouraged active participation, ultimately enhancing team collaboration and project success.

In our Scrum-Agile project, tools such as JIRA were instrumental in our success. JIRA facilitated efficient sprint planning, task assignment, and progress tracking. The use of JIRA allows teams to create and prioritize user stories, ensuring everyone is aligned on the sprint goals. The burndown charts in JIRA provide real-time visibility into progress, helping teams to stay on track.

The pros of Scrum0Agile in the SNHU Travel Project were flexibility and adaptability, the iterative nature of Scrum allowed us to adapt to changing requirements. Enhanced collaboration like daily stand-ups and sprint reviews fostered open communication among team members and stakeholders, ensuring everyone was on the same page. Regular retrospectives helped us to identify and implement process improvements, enhancing our efficiency over time. Some cons were resource allocation, balancing the workload across sprints can be challenging, especially when team members have varying level of expertise. Overall, the Scrum-Agile approach was well suited for the SNHU Travel Project. The project's dynamic nature, with frequent changes in requirements and the need for rapid delivery of features, aligned well with Scrum’s iterative and flexible framework.