**Sprint Review and Retrospective**

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The various roles within the Scrum-agile Team made significant contributions to the success of the SNHU Travel project through their distinctive responsibilities and collaborative efforts. The Scrum-agile team is composed of various roles such as the Product Owner, the Scrum Master, and the developers.

The Product Owner plays a vital role in ensuring that client and stakeholder requirements are accurately captured. In the context of the SNHU Travel project, our Product Owner, Christy, facilitated discussions among clients to gather feedback on the project's direction. For example, she led conversations on expanding the SNHU Travel customer base by incorporating trendy, niche vacation packages and collected valuable input from numerous customers. Furthermore, the Product Owner effectively prioritized user stories in the product backlog, shifting the project's focus to aspects that addressed various stakeholders' needs. This strategy of shifting to a different focus on detox/wellness vacation packages helped in contributing to the project’s overall success.

The Scrum Master played a key role in the success of SNHU Travel. They engaged clients to shape the system's design and provided clear guidance for team roles. This included creating an agile team charter and structuring the schedule with important Scrum events, like Sprint planning, Daily Scrum, Sprint Review, Retrospective, and the Sprint backlog. For example, their involvement in the Daily Scrum encouraged collaboration and effective problem-solving, driving project success.

Developers and testers play a pivotal role in the SNHU Travel project, serving as the driving force behind product construction and deployment. They align with both the Product Owner's requirements and the Scrum Master's guidance, contributing to the project's success through team-driven focus, collaboration, and problem-solving.

In an agile framework where requirements can change, developers and testers facilitate product success by actively engaging with the Product Owner to accommodate new requirements. For example, when the design shifted towards different vacation packages, they seamlessly adjusted their focus while retaining much of the existing design, resulting in time, cost, and effort savings. This exemplifies agile development's core principles and demonstrates its positive impact on the SNHU Travel project's success.

User stories played a pivotal role in driving the success of SNHU Travel by delineating specific requirements agreed upon by the clientele and the Product Owner. However, in a Scrum-agile approach, these user stories are subject to change. For instance, when the initial user stories were crafted, they primarily focused on aspects like website design and vacation packages. As the project evolved, these user stories required revisions, which in turn led to the adaptation of test cases to align with the evolving requirements outlined by the Product Owner. The Scrum-agile approach to the SDLC is instrumental in transforming these user stories into accurate test cases and narratives that are adaptive to the dynamic nature of an agile process.

In a Scrum-agile framework, requirements often evolve, driving changes in development focus. This flexibility benefits project completion by enabling the team to revisit backlog elements, aligning with new requirements. For instance, in the SNHU Travel Project, the Product Owner introduced new requirements, emphasizing detox/wellness vacation packages. The Scrum-agile approach allowed the team to reevaluate previous design elements and reallocate focus to incorporate these new requirements.

In my role as Product Owner for the Vision Quest software case study, I facilitated team collaboration by proposing effective techniques to enhance our agile approach. For instance, I suggested incorporating the Product backlog and the Sprint Backlog into our framework, emphasizing their value for project coordination. This active engagement encouraged productive discussions among team members, fostering effective communication and ultimately contributing to the success of the Vision Quest software case study.

Organizational tools like user stories, test cases, and the product backlog significantly contributed to our team's success in the SNHU Travel project. User stories defined design requirements for developers, while test cases outlined how to implement them. The product backlog structured the development process, promoting effective team collaboration. Our success was also driven by key Scrum-agile principles, emphasizing individuals and interactions over processes, customer collaboration over contract negotiation, and adaptability over strict planning. (*How The 12 Principles in the Agile Manifesto Work in Real Life*, n.d.) These principles were consistently applied, from client and stakeholder collaboration with the Scrum Master and Product Owner to adapting to new design details. This cohesive application showcased the effectiveness of the Scrum-agile process and its principles.

Different product development approaches come with inherent pros and cons. In the case of the Scrum-agile approach used in the SNHU Travel project, some notable pros include the ability to adapt quickly by revisiting previous phases to address new requirements, fostering effective communication and collaboration among team members, and solving problems efficiently through processes like the Daily Scrum.

On the other hand, this approach may introduce challenges such as defining when specific requirements or the overall design are considered "done." The frequent revisiting of project phases to ensure requirements are met can sometimes lead to challenges in meeting project deadlines. Additionally, the Scrum-agile approach relies on team members to drive their own engagement in the workflow, which may not align with individuals who prefer highly structured design processes. To complete the evaluation of the Scrum-agile approach and its role in developing the SNHU Travel project, it goes without saying that this approach has inherently contributed to the success of the project. The Scrum-agile approach is not a one-size fits all approach to development, and in some cases may not be the ideal approach to use. However, in the case of SNHU Travel, it played a pivotal role in its remarkable success.

During the project's development, SNHU Travel encountered various shifts and challenges typical of real-world software development. These changes, reflective of the dynamic nature of product development, were effectively managed by the Scrum-agile approach's adaptive structure. In contrast, a Waterfall approach might have encountered more obstacles, as it is less accommodating to revisiting earlier phases and adapting to sudden changes in requirements. Had SNHU Travel adopted a Waterfall approach, it may not have coped well with the abrupt changes in client requirements. That’s why I think SNHU Travel benefited from these Scrum-agile processes since the design was able to suddenly adapt and undergo transitionary periods of refinement for requirements. With these concepts in mind, SNHU Travel was still a success and greatly benefitted from many of the Scrum-agile processes and principles it had to offer.

References

*How the 12 principles in the Agile Manifesto work in real life*. (n.d.). Scrum.org. https://www.scrum.org/resources/blog/how-12-principles-agile-manifesto-work-real-life