**Professional Summary**

* Responsible, Collaborative, Committed and knowledgeable **Certified** **Scrum Master** and **Professional Business Analyst** with **4+** years of experience in **coaching and facilitating Scrum teams, 5+** years of experience in **Business Analysis** and a cumulative **9+ years of experience** in end-to-end software development life cycle using **Waterfall** and **Agile methodologies**.
* Certified Professional Scrum Master **(PSM)(** <https://www.scrum.org/user/263055> **)**
* Active member of IIBA (International Institute of Business Analysis).
* Certified Scrum Master **(CSM)** from Scrum Alliance
* Active member of Project Management Institute, Agile Certified Practitioners **[PMI ACP]**
* Prospective **PMI ACP** certification 2017 metrics
* Excellent team motivation skills with **servant leadership qualities** tonudge, steer, and help team in fulfilling scrum goals by facilitating **scrum ceremonies**
* Extensive experience in **Property & Casualty, Risk and Regulatory Compliance, Banking, Financial, Analytics** and IT domain.
* Excellent communication and collaboration with peripheral scrum team and other **cross functional units** of the organization
* Expert in **motivating agile transitioning teams** to adapt agile methodologies and self-organizational traits
* Expert in doing Root Cause Analysis for identifying and resolving team’s performance hurdles and suggested **fool-proof techniques for successful completion of agile sprints**; effective utilization of **the sprint retrospective meetings**
* Expertise in conducting **Story mapping & Sprint planning** practices and illustration of the vision of the project
* Expert in using **various techniques to refine the product backlog** with Business value and Effort estimates by facilitating product refinement meetings
* Empowering the team to knock blockers out themselves and build trust to communicate clearly and objectively
* Expert in handling **time boxed daily scrum** calls with brisk and relevant discussions
* Inspection and adaption of the team activities in **sprint retrospective** meetings
* Highly experienced in **tracking** and communicating sprint release progress through **burn-down charts**
* Expert in evaluating **User Stories from epics** and refining Backlog list with Business owner
* **Training and mentoring** developers and quality analysts in understanding agile methodologies
* Effective blocking of the scrum **team impediments and deviations** from cross functional teams.
* Worked with Architects, Data modelers, Developers, Testing teams thereby coordinating efforts.
* Proven successin **eliciting** requirements, **GAP** analysis, **Risk** assessment, and **SWOT** analysis.
* Leading and working with teams to examine and solve business problems by accurately analyzing the needs of clients and helping them achieve improved quality and value for their customers.
* Experience in networking with individuals at various levels and possess outstanding skills in structuring and facilitating **Joint Application Design** sessions.
* Involving in **Feasibility and Estimation** meetings to gain in depth knowledge of the entire scope of the project
* Collaborating and analyzing with all the strategic business units to define the areas for implementation of **Business re-engineering**.
* Effectively handling sign off process with stake holders at different levels and **executing good conflict resolution approaches**.
* Dedicated & Self-motivated individual with proven **leadership** capabilities, verbal and written communication skills, problem-solving skills and time **management** skills.

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| **SDLC Methodologies** | Scrum, Waterfall-Scrum, Waterfall, SAFe, Kanban |
| **Business Skills** | Change Management, Impact Analysis, JAD Sessions, Interviews, SWOT analysis, Project Planning, Project Scheduling, and Project Budgeting. |
| **Requirement Management** | MS Office suite, JIRA, Rally, StoriesOnBoard |
| **Modeling Tools** | Rational Rose, MS Visio, Moqups Screens, Wireframes |
| **Project Management Tools** | MS Project, MS SharePoint Server |
| **Testing Tools** | HP QC , HP ALM , Load Runner |
| **Languages** | .Net, Java, Python, R, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, XML |

**Technical Skills**

**Professional Experience**

**Sammons Financial Group, Des Moines, IA Dec 2014 – Current**

**Scrum Master/Agile Business Analyst**

Sammons Financial Group, Inc. (SFG) is an insurance holding company whose member companies offer a diverse portfolio of financial services and retirement products, including life insurance, annuities, variable annuities, and securities. The Investments and Wealth Management department offers comprehensive wealth management services including retirement and financial planning, investment management, trust and fiduciary services, and private banking from U.S. Bank to help you work toward your financial goals. It also offers retirement and financial planning, investment management and brokerage solutions.

**Responsibilities:**

* Being a **servant leader** coached the team to improve continuously using agile principles.
* Organized **Product backlog refinement**, **Sprint planning, Sprint reviews and Sprint retrospective**
* **Introduced Hand-shake meeting** to facilitate effective transition of work between on-shore and off-shore team members
* Laying foundation for the team by planning and executing **sprint zero**.
* Acted as **Agile Coach, Scrum Master** and **Servant Leader** for technical cross functional teams implementing Scrum
* Educated Agile teams on the use of Story points and relative sizing
* Enhanced **team’s productivity**, thereby increasing the Sprint Velocity
* Mentored and empowered teams towards making appropriate commitments through story selection, establishing acceptance criteria, **Acceptance Test-Driven Development (ATDD)** and test-driven development (TDD), story sizing and task definition
* Educated the team in how to manage an overall release plan, velocity forecast with agile metrics through standard agile tooling such as JIRA
* **Protect scrum team** from outside distractions, impediments or team conflicts and maintain focus on product backlog and project time lines.
* Delivering **Minimum Viable Product** to the Business owners from where the consumption got productionable
* Involved in breaking down the concepts into user stories and streamlining the daily delegation of incoming issues using Issue tracking system
* **Resolved impediments/roadblocks** to re-create the focus on accomplishing the sprint goal.
* Conducted **retrospective meetings** to inspect the team’s performance and adapt new changes
* Negotiating with **Product Owner** in backlog management for scope creeps and continuous delivery
* Tracking and Radiating team metrics through burn-down charts to higher executives
* Actively contributed throughout the scrum/agile process in daily standups, functional and technical grooming sessions.
* Steer the team to stick to short answers to the three questions; steer them away from discussing problems or details during the **daily scrum**

**TD Bank, Cherry Hill, NJ Jan 2013 to Nov 2014**

**Scrum Master Agile Business Analyst**

TD Bank offers banking, lending and trust services. This bank is a subsidiary of Tornoto-Domnion bank, a Canadian multinational bank. TD provides personal & commercial banking, brokerage services, mutual funds, asset management, insurance, and capital markets products & services

­­**Responsibilities:**

* Worked with cross-functional teams in an **Agile-Scrum** environment which **transitioned from waterfall methodology**
* Help team to **overcome impediments** as a top priority and ensure relevant team members meet to overcome impediments before doing regular work
* Engaged in **agile program management** and created product concepts based on the organisation’s strategy
* Audit sprint metrics and convey all the data to Product Management teams
* Rendered **hands-on supervision and mentorship** to a team which was entirely new to Agile Scrum methodology
* Successfully met the goal of managing a project outside the area of technical expertise
* Scheduled releases and kept track of development status, **inspected and adapted** with the team to constantly improve performance and responsiveness.
* **Introduced Hand-shake meeting** to facilitate effective transition of work between on-shore and off-shore team members
* Facilitated **daily standup meetings** and multiple meetings for the development teams
* Facilitated **product backlog refinement** meetings for the product owner to refine and prioritize the stories
* Conducted **Sprint planning A and Sprint Planning B** meetings for better understanding of the user acceptance criteria and proper planning of the sprint
* Organized **Sprint review meetings** for appreciation of the developed product by product owners and other stakeholders
* Helped the **product owners** to come up with set of stories for better understanding for estimation and development.
* Ensure (help) the Product Owner **refines and prioritizes the backlog** and ensure the product owner prepares a sprint goal
* Met goal of addressing and **resolving issues within 24 hours** and managed the lifecycle of code development, from ideation to sprints to deployment
* Facilitated and participated in almost every **Scope lock** **meeting** to finalize the Requirements and deliverables of each sprint.
* Communicated with other cross functional teams like Security, Networking and legal & compliance teams.
* Assisted in **defect tracking** and coordinated with developers to quickly resolve the defects associated with them.
* Provided support to offshore and onsite testing team in defect triaging, analyzing and help identifying the bugs.
* Ensured Scrum Framework is followed including the required meetings and artifacts, worked closely with the Product Owner to ensure product backlog and release plans are clear
* Resolved variety of project issues including Scope Creep and technical challenges
* Worked on documenting the project’s statement of work document and maintained product backlogs, current priorities with business and IT leads.
* Assisted QA team to develop **test plan, test design, & test scenarios** to perform **black box, Regression, & UAT.**
* Involved in **Defect tracking** & **management** & **generating error reports** with the testing team.

**State Farm Insurance, Bloomington, IL Jan 2012 – Dec 2012**

**Sr. Agile Business Analyst**

State Farm is an American group of insurance and financial services companies in the United States. The group's main business is State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, a mutual insurance firm that also owns the other State Farm companies

**Responsibilities:**

* Conducting **story mapping** and **story boarding** session to elicit high level features and goals from the Product owners
* Creating good user stories and tasks using **INVEST and SMART** Principles
* Developing **user stories and grooming** them with product owners throughout the agile lifecycle
* Serve as a **liaison between product owner and scrum team** for communicating well developed user stories
* Assisted with the development of project schedules using MS Project
* Analyzed an efficient production workflow using Microsoft technology
* **Grooming well developed user stories** with user acceptance criteria and mockups if required for developing a good product backlog
* Creating data flow diagrams and business process flow diagrams for better understanding of the business needs by the scrum team
* Creating the Gap analysis document by analyzing the as is process and understanding the future need
* **Negotiating effectively with Product owner** on the release priorities and exceptional scope creep.
* **Significant contribution to stories development** in product backlog, sprint backlog and release backlog meetings.
* Active participant in **Sprint planning, Sprint retrospective, Sprint review and Product review meetings.**
* **Utilizing Sprint retrospective Meetings** to understand the impediments and improve the productivity of the team.
* Involving users actively in **User Acceptance Tests (UAT)** between development team and the end users from the business team
* Participated in daily stand-up meetings and sprint review meetings.
* Developing Business requirement document and responsibly taking the signoffs at each stages.
* Documenting functional requirement documents, use cases, mockups and roles documentation as needed
* Checking the integrity of the newly added features and their effect to the existing ones with integrity testing and regression testing
* Conducting smoke test, black box test, alpha test and beta test along with Quality Assurance teams.
* Coordinate development activities by managing the technical requirements in a requirements traceability matrix.

**Bank of America, Charlotte, NC June 2009 to Nov 2010**

**Business Analyst**

Bank of America is one of the world's largest financial institutions, serving individuals, small- and middle-market businesses and large corporations with a full range of banking, investing, asset management and other financial and risk management products and services. The company serves approximately 56 million U.S. consumer and small business relationships. It is among the world's leading wealth management companies and is a global leader in corporate and investment banking and trading.

**Responsibilities:**

* Involved in data modeling, data mapping, data profiling and preparation of Business Requirement Document (BRD), Functional Requirement Document (FRD) and Test data management
* Developing data maps along with developers and data analysts to track transformation of data elements from source to target across all phases of staging.
* Working with Business Owners to gather requirements and design reports in a BA/Developer Capacity.
* Involving in Feasibility and Estimation meeting along with the architects and product owners
* Accountable for facilitating kick off meeting with stakeholders, product owners and architect
* Creating Business Requirements Documents (BRD), by facilitating meetings with business users and architects
* Involving business owners in testing all phases of development (Data Migration, ETL, Reporting) and signing off on the final product
* Analyzing data integration strategies, fallout competencies with developers to ensure the quality of data flow and conducting Joint Application Design (JAD) sessions.
* Working with data analyst teams to customize simultaneous analysis of data from new and old environments
* Creating test strategies, test plans and executed test cases based on the business rules and Interfaces.
* Performing the Unit and functional testing, which validate the data mapping and provides a qualitative check of data fallouts and overall data flow that needs to deposit correctly in Target tables
* Mapping system requirements with Test Cases, manually executed test cases in QC, ensured traceability of Test Cases back to the Business Requirements using Quality Centre.
* Extensively used SQL Queries to verify and validate the Database Updates.
* Performed Sanity testing, Integration testing, End-to-End testing, Functional testing, System testing and User Acceptance Testing (UAT)

**Principal Financial Group, Des Moines, IA Mar 2007 to June 2009**

**Business Analyst**

The Principal Financial Group (The Principal) offers businesses individuals and institutional clients a wide range of financial products and services including retirement, asset management and insurance, through its diverse family of financial services companies.

**Responsibilities:**

* Interacted with Users and Stakeholders to identify business system needs, evaluated solutions for business problems
* Worked with SME’s of different groups to gain detailed knowledge of Investments and Capital Market and to understand the cross impacts of the system
* Analyzed and documented information system requirements and the corresponding impact on business processes
* Studied the Business Requirement Document (BRD), supporting documents containing essential business elements, detailed definition and description of the relationship between the actors
* Designed and developed Use Case Diagrams, Activity Diagrams, and Data Flow Diagrams to define the Business Process, analyzed the data entity relationships and worked on multiple short-term projects in between.
* Worked as a team with other business analysts to make an object-oriented model of the application
* Conducted JAD sessions to allow different stakeholders to communicate with each other, resolve problems at early stage
* Worked on the Functional Requirements Document (FRD)
* Hands on experience in working with active directory, to give privileges and access to the users according to their roles and designations
* Analyzed Business Requirements documents to get a better understanding of the system on both Technical and Business perspectives