**Final Project**

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**Sprint Review**

For our Sprint Review, we will be discussing the overall results accomplished for the SNHU Travel Project as we began to implement an agile approach for handling customer requests and improving the overall quality product development. With the implementation of an agile approach, this required a synonymous effort amongst the development team, Scrum Master and Product Owner for us to achieve optimal success for product development. One of the biggest obstacles we had to overcome was more efficient communication amongst everyone within the development team, as well with the stakeholders which then allowed for more transparency with our customer. This resulted with an efficient final product using our definition of “done”. Our Product Owner was transparent with communication on all ends throughout the sprint to allow for total completion with the user stories written, which also allowed for greater efficiency with the product backlog grooming done by the product owner as well. Ultimately, this resulted in a well-developed slideshow that fulfilled all the requirements from the user stories. Our Scrum master was able to help facilitate our transition into an agile approach with great clarity and made sure we understood what had to be done for us to complete this sprint using an agile approach. The Scrum Master orchestrated our “Daily Standup” meetings which provided communication we had not experienced before. This type of communication was crucial for us to complete this sprint in a timely manner while allowing us to adapt to the few changes we had to endure from the customer regarding what was needed for our final slideshow. Our Product Owner also did an excellent job delegating our work with the user stories to maximize the value of product development as well with the work of the development team. Along with maximizing the workflow, they were able to provide information regarding changes in a clear manner with product development while being fully transparent to avoid any potential discrepancies with the development team regarding the changes in the slideshow now displaying information on “Wellness and Detox Vacations”. The cross functionality amongst the developers was a key component for success with the development team. They were able to organize their own work and had no issues developing any user story available for them to choose. This allowed for them to be “done” with this sprint in a timely manner, which then delivered a product that pleased our customer. Upon completion, the Product Owner was then able to groom the product backlog completing out the stories for this sprint and inform our stakeholders of our progress for improved transparency with us now incorporating an agile approach. In the end, we were able to develop a slideshow that fulfilled all the requirements that were requested from the customer and doing so while transitioning into an agile environment.

**Retrospective**

In our sprint retrospective, we will be discussing what went well with our transition into an agile approach for fulfilling this sprint and what could be done to help improve overall effectiveness using an agile methodology. Things that went well with this sprint include improved communication implementing “Information Radiators”, which allowed for more transparency amongst everyone on the development team and our stakeholders. We used whiteboards and physically removed tasks once completed, and using this approach also allowed our stakeholders to view our productivity. A tool we used to help with our transition implementing an agile approach was using JIRA. JIRA was a very successful tool which allowed for greater communication with everyone in the development team having the ability to easily track and search user stories or any issues with user stories that we may have had. We felt this tool compliments an agile approach better than some of the other tools and would be more successful than others with its rising popularity. With us using JIRA and implementing Information Radiators, communication was the most effective it had ever been with the development team. An example of us improving our communication was how we were going to go about testing our code using a TDD approach while utilizing daily scrums to make sure there was full transparency. We understood using a TDD approach would require more code for frequent testing, but we believed the daily scrums would allow for this transition to happen very smoothly knowing we would discuss any issues and successes we had using this daily.

With having more communication that comes with using an agile approach, it has allowed for the development team to embrace changes and interruptions that arise within a sprint. This whole methodology is designed for embracing change and overcoming obstacles by having developers working collaboratively and having developers that are cross functional. Any changes or requests from our customers using agile approach are now easier to handle rather than utilizing a traditional project approach. When we received updated information from our customer regarding a change in the slideshow to now show the top “Wellness and Detox Vacations”, the team was able to embrace the changes in our project development to its fullest which made product development easier to handle than before.

Implementing an agile approach has many benefits such as the ability to embrace change and uncertainty, we can provide immediate feedback while constantly embracing efficient communication on all ends which includes the stakeholders, and the development team is more flexible while using a more adaptive approach for all situations during development. All these benefits are a result of constant communication on all ends, which is needed for an agile approach to be most effective. That being said, there are a few downfalls that also come with a switch to agile. Some of these downfalls include less planning and predictability regarding completion of a sprint, as well with lack of documentation. This can be difficult for people who need more structure and certainty regarding development, but these downfalls would need to be overcome for success in an agile environment. This lack of predictability may also result in the time of completion for a project because of the potential unknown or obstacles that may arise.

Overall, I believe an agile approach was optimal for the success with the SNHU Travel project. I believe the pros outweigh the cons because of the need for constant and concise communication that is required for success within an agile environment. Although the idea of less planning and predictability may be less appealing at first glance, the ability to embrace uncertainty and being more flexible is more suitable for software development in a constantly changing environment.

**References**

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