**7-1 Final Project**

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The various scrum roles helped facilitate progress during the SNHUTravel project. The role of scrum master contributed to a more cohesive team with a focus on the task and efficiency. Scrum masters help promote teamwork using scrum meetings. Scrum meetings can improve a company in multiple ways. With the advent of remote work, Scrum meetings may be the only interaction some employees have with their co-workers during a workday. These meetings can improve morale, promote teamwork, and ensure communication to provide a more cohesive atmosphere. These meetings allow assisting someone with something you may be excellent at solving. Scrum meetings also allow team members to connect and collaborate on tasks so they can be resolved quicker and more efficiently. These meetings allow teammates to come together each morning and share their progress, struggles, and what they expect to achieve in the following days.

An effective Product owner can add significant value to a project or team. By efficiently managing the product backlog, engaging with the stakeholders, and monitoring the progress they help create a better complete product. By engaging with end users and stakeholders, product owners assist by being the intermediary between developers and the client. Taking feedback from the end users and incorporating that information into the backlog creates a more enjoyable experience for the users. Meeting with the stakeholders and incorporating their financial restraints and feedback helps the team stay within budget and time frame while creating an experience like the stakeholders envisioned. Product owners allow for effective and transparent communication between the scrum team and the stakeholders.

The development team creates the product and mitigates the errors and problems within the code. Developers can use methods like pair programming to create code in teams, allowing a second set of eyes to be on the project to create a program with fewer errors. Testers work with the development team to find problems and solutions for a better overall product. In the SNHUTravel project, testers found problems developers could address and align the project more with the client’s needs.

User stories can assist teams in developing a product by providing information on what would benefit the end user’s experience and the project. The scrum team can hear feedback from end users in the format of a user story and understand in nontechnical terms what could be added to the product for better functionality. These user stories can be added as tasks in the backlog and be completed in order of priority. User stories helped during the SNHUTravel assignment. Mentioning that adding a price limit to the searches helped me determine what actions should be taken to achieve that objective. Several people in the user meetings mentioned cruises and other options for travel packages, so it helped determine to integrate all their wishes into a few smaller changes.

An agile approach to software development contributes to a more flexible timeline. When the SNHUTravel project changed course, the team was able to adapt and correct the issues without jeopardizing the whole project. Using another method like waterfall, the problem would not have been noticed until the end of the software development life cycle and would have required a complete rework. Agile allows for changes and issues to be addressed quickly and efficiently without modifying the entire process.

Communication and teamwork are some of the main principles within agile methodology. Promoting effective communication within a scrum team contributes to a team that works well together and solves problems together. During the SNHUTravel assignment, I had to communicate with the product owner and the scrum master to get clarity and more information about some of the changes regarding the style and functionality of the project. Asking questions about the product demonstrates your interest and involvement. Communication mitigates the risk of errors and saves time by allowing you to focus on important tasks.

Organizational tools like Kanban boards or Jira facilitate the development process. By allowing the team to view and contribute to the backlog, you promote a transparent process with clear goals. These tools show what tasks are being performed at a given time, who is working on them, and can show you a clear timeline until the backlog is cleared. Following these agile principles allows success by focusing on your team and the needs of the client without the interdepartmental problems that can arise from projects. Scrum events allow each of the team members to contribute their thoughts and progress without the risk of backlash or fear of retaliation from superiors. Scrum events help promote transparency and teamwork by promoting an atmosphere where teamwork and integrity are encouraged.

The agile process allowed the team to unite and complete the SNHUTravel project in an efficient manner and within the timeline. Scrum meetings allowed the team to collaborate and work together towards the end goal of a quality product. User stories identified problem areas and allowed the team to pivot, correct those problems, and continue completing the backlog tasks. I did not see any negatives with the agile process during this assignment. The effective use of communication and testing throughout the process allowed for problems to be identified early and rectified with minimal disruption. Everything went smoothly and the issues could be addressed as they arose, rather than finding issues at the end and requiring the project to be reworked. I believe the agile approach was the correct method for this project and would have become problematic if waterfall or xp methodology were used.