7-1 Final Project: Sprint Retrospective

CS-250 Software Development Life Cycle

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Sprint Review and Retrospective for the SNHU Travel Project

Each team member plays an essential role within the Scrum team, as having different inputs is undoubtedly a clear path to success. During the development of the SNHU Travel project, the observation from different meeting contents led to the realization of how having dedicated professional roles was delightful. For instance, the product owner was there to convey the needs of the application to the rest of the team. Once requirements reached the dev team, they continued with clarification questions for further analysis. As a result, having such dedication, transparent input, and contribution from each member led to success.

The SNHU Travel project's user stories were completed much more quickly and easily because of the Scrum-agile approach's iterative and incremental nature. First, the Product Owner added each story to the backlog based on priority and importance. Then, the dev team seamlessly took stories and completed them as they committed. During the sprint, the development team used the Scrum board effectively, which visualized the status of user stories, from in progress, to done. In addition, the daily scrum meetings allowed team members to synchronize their work and identify any impediments that needed to be addressed.

The Scrum framework encourages each team member to be more flexible, which can be particularly useful when a project changes direction or encounters unexpected obstacles. Additionally, the framework provides a regular tempo of sprints, during which the team can reassess priorities and adjust the backlog as needed to respond to changes in project direction. Finally, I, as the Scrum Master, ensured that the team followed the Scrum ceremonies, including the daily scrum, sprint review, and sprint retrospective, to keep track of continued progress.

A clear and concise sharing of information is necessary for effective communication in a team. Establishing open communication channels among team members is crucial to promote teamwork and guaranteeing everyone is on the same page. Providing avenues for communication, such as team meetings, stand-ups, and collaboration tools like Mattermost, Jira, or Asana, is a requirement of the Scrum Master role.

Positive reinforcement is a powerful tool for inspiring teamwork. For instance, a scrum master can take the initiative to reward team members who have contributed significantly to the project or the group's overall accomplishments. As a result, the team's morale can be raised, and members might be inspired to keep working toward the project's objectives by celebrating little victories and accomplishments. Allowing team members to provide input and actively listen to their thoughts and concerns is another strategy to promote collaboration. Providing a safe and encouraging atmosphere for team members to express their thoughts and viewpoints can result in more creative solutions and help identify and resolve any problems or obstacles. In order to demonstrate effective communication, it is essential to provide specific examples of how each team member communicated with their peers throughout the project. For instance, scrum masters could share a message sent to the team in a Slack channel or an email that provided feedback on a team member's work. Scrum masters also should explain why communication was effective and how it contributed to the team's collaboration.

There are several techniques to follow in terms of using organizational tools and scrum principles. To begin with, Jira is a powerful software that functions well as the primary project management tool, enabling the team to manage the backlog, monitor progress, and assign tasks to team members. The team could easily comprehend the tasks, their progress, and any dependencies due to Jira's facilitation of transparency and insight into the project. Furthermore, Jira's Scrum board assisted in visualizing the flow of work and locating bottlenecks to promote efficient task management and workflow. Also, Confluence could be used as a tool for documentation, allowing the team to keep track of project-related data, including team rules, meeting minutes, and records of user stories and acceptance criteria. Finally, Confluence may act as a consolidated knowledge repository for projects, facilitating teamwork and ensuring team members are aware of the objectives and specifications of the project.

Similar to any other approach, Scrum-Agile has its advantages and disadvantages. To begin with the method's pros, the adaptability of this strategy, which enables modifications throughout the development process, is one of its benefits. Being adaptable was especially helpful in the SNHU Travel project because the requirements had to be thoroughly defined initially, and changes had to be made in response to client feedback and changing demands. Similarly, the Scrum-Agile methodology stresses teamwork, encouraging transparency and lowering the possibility of misunderstandings or miscommunications. Doing so made teamwork in the SNHU Travel project more efficient and successful by enabling smooth communication and coordination among team members. Scrum-Agile does, however, have certain drawbacks in addition to its advantages. For instance, the Scrum-Agile methodology is founded on an incremental and iterative process, which might make it challenging to anticipate the project's timeframe or scope with precision. This could become an issue if the project has a short deadline, or the requirements could use some clarification.

The Scrum-Agile methodology was the optimal methodology for this project, according to the team's experience with the SNHU Travel project. The team could modify the project as needed and provide value to the customer early in the development process because of the approach's flexibility and incremental delivery features. In addition, the team completed the project on time and within budget thanks to effective communication and coordination made possible by the emphasis on team collaboration. Despite several difficulties, such as poor predictability and resource management, the approach's advantages exceeded these problems and produced a successful result.

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