Module 7 Final Project

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CS-250 Software Development Lifecycle

Author Note

Include any grant/funding information and a complete correspondence address.

Abstract

**Applying Roles**: Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-Agile Team specifically contributed to the success of a project. Use specific examples from your experiences.

All the roles in a scrum-agile team are important and play a role in the well-oiled machine to keep the team on task and ready to adapt to any changes. The product owner helped the success of the SNHU Travel project by creating the backlog and assigning priorities to keep the team on track, also changing the priorities when needed to keep the projects trajectory aligned with the customers vision. Another critical job the product owner had was providing the developers and tester with clarification of the user stories when needed. This helped the team because instead of guessing and likely getting it wrong the product manager provided key details on what the customer wanted the features to do. For example, when the team was confused and wanted to know if the slide show style way of displaying locations was only for the top five features or for the entire site. The Scrum master provided the structure and lead the meetings needed to get engagement from everyone and to make sure the topics are relevant. The scrum master facilitated communication within the team which made everyone feel like a part of the project in turn giving everyone confidence. The developers did a great job communicating on this project, each developer daily communicated what they did the day prior, what they are doing today and how they plan on completing today’s task. The development team is responsible for delivering work throughout SPRINT and they did a great job. Even when they were faced with last minute changes like the top five vacations changed to health and wellness travel. The last role I will mention is technically not part of the scrum, but it was a great help to the SNHU Travel project and that is the user stories by people who used similar sites, these interviews helped fill the gap between consumer and what the stakeholders wanted. Implementing what the users feel is needed or useful like sort by price feature will help SNHU travel to stay competitive and will make our stakeholders happier.

**Completing User Stories**: Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach to the software development life cycle (SDLC) helped user stories come to completion. Use specific examples from your experiences.

The scrum-agile approach helped the user stories come to completion because the product manager using SPRINT was able to break down the user stories into small manageable tasks that the development team can implement in a day or two. The daily standups where the team can discuss their tasks and share how it will be solved. This software development strategy also is centered around the idea of continuous implementation and feedback which in the end ensures that the users and stakeholders get exactly what they wanted out of the product.

**Handling Interruptions**: Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction. Use specific examples from your experiences.

The scrum agile approach was particularly useful when the stakeholders informed the team that the travel site will be pushing wellness travel because of data they received about market trends, with this method the team was able to shift focus easily. The focus was able to shift easily because the tasks given are small and manageable. Another reason is because of the product managers’ preparation and maintenance of the backlog, in which tasks are marked with priorities that can easily be changed according to business needs.

**Communication**: Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing samples of your communication. Explain why your examples were effective in their context and how they encouraged collaboration among team members.

“Email

To: Christy

CC: Brian, Matthew

Subject: Detox and Wellness Vacations and slide show

Hello Christy,

I was wondering if the slide show style way of showing the top places will be just for the detox and wellness vacations or will this be implemented site wide for all other vacations. Also, how will we show these wellness vacations to those who might not have wellness vacations set as their preference on their profile.

Thanks,

Aneudi”

In this example I had email Christy about some test cases I was developing. This communication was effective because it was concise and clear on what I was asking and what information I needed from her. I needed to know if the slide show style was going to be implemented site wide or only for specific travel packages. Also, asked if we should be testing to see if the wellness vacations will show up for those who have different preferences in their profile. My email might have encouraged others to add or ask their own questions because I also CC others that the information would also be relevant and beneficial to.

**Organizational Tools**: Evaluate the organizational tools and Scrum-Agile principles that helped your team be successful. Reference the Scrum events in relation to the effectiveness of the tools.

Project management tools like Azure boards centralize task management and streamline processes by having the product backlog, user stories, and tasks all in one place Chcomley (2023). The team was able to see the status of a task, or recent comments written about it without having to take the time to inquire and wait for a reply, which increased the speed at which communication happened. The Azure boards was also integrated GitHub making it easier to push changes and update product status. The Azure Boards was effective because it gave transparency on the tasks and if any trouble was encountered, the notes helped identify what went well and what went wrong in the SPRINT and the daily planning of scrum meetings.

**Evaluating Agile Process**: Assess the effectiveness of the Scrum-Agile approach for a specific project. Address each of the following:

Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-Agile approach presented during the SNHU Travel project.

The Scrum-agile approach was effective in the SNHU travel project for many reasons. It was effective because of flexibility, team collaboration and faster time to develop. The flexibility of the approach was given by the backlog where priorities can be shifted to make time for other critical processes. The team collaboration is nurtured by the daily scrum where everyone is expected to participate. And most importantly the time to deliver a product early in the stages of development because the product is being developed and updated often which provides the developers with feedback every time there is a change. However, that is not to say that this approach does not come without cons. Directly opposing the scrum meeting comments if one does not find a balance on how many meetings must be had in a week this can produce the negative effect of what is trying to achieve which is great communication. This can happen because if too many meetings are scheduled some team members might start to think they are excessive and time-consuming. Also, agile scrum development performs better when people who are experienced with the development strategy are involved.

* + Determine whether or not a Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project.

After being introduced to the Scrum-agile approach and SPRINT I can’t see how companies would do things in a different manner. The organization and communication that is demanded in this software building strategy streamlines the production process. For this project the scrum agile method was the best approach because its key functionalities helped get the project done. The resource allocation when priorities were being shifted. The feedback and user stories were essential to adding the desired features and it was all brought together by the product owner and the scrum events. Another feature of scrum-agile methodology used to complete this project successfully was SPRINT planning. This methodology requires a lot of coordination and collaboration because that is what makes it possible, if the team was not as collaborative then another method like Waterfall would be more useful.

References

Chcomley. (2023, June 2). *Agile workflow in Azure Boards - Azure Boards*. Microsoft Learn. https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/devops/boards/work-items/guidance/agile-process-workflow?view=azure-devops