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Software Development Lifecycle

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Final Project

As the Scrum Master of the SNHU Travel project, I would like to present the sprint review and retrospective report for the project. The Product Owner created a clear vision and roadmap for the project by prioritizing user stories based on what made sense towards creating the best SNHU travel booking program. The Development Team worked diligently to ensure that each user story was taken into account and that the best product was created based on user and stakeholder feedback. The testers helped to ensure there were no outstanding bugs in the programming and allowed for real time feedback of what it was like to navigate through the application and what features they would like to see in the future. As the Scrum Master I facilitated the Scrum events and ensured that the team adhered to the Agile principles.

The Scrum-agile approach helped the team complete each user story effectively. The team worked collaboratively to break down each user story into smaller, more manageable tasks. The team then estimated the time required to complete each task and worked on them incrementally. Each increment was tested, reviewed, and validated before moving onto the next task, ensuring that the final product met the customer's expectations and that we were delivering a great product. While mapping out the user stories we gathered great information which included user preferences to the SNHU travel booking program such as various types of vacations, top destinations based on price, vacations based on profile preferences and previous vacations taken. These user stories were vital in how to structure our product to meet customer needs.

When the project was interrupted and changed direction, the Scrum-agile approach helped the team adapt to the new requirements of wellness and healing vacations being a new popular and trending feature that would be the future of travel booking sites. The team held a meeting to discuss the changes, and the Product Owner re-prioritized the user stories based on the new business information presented to the team as well as looked at which destinations would be popular for healing and wellness. This included changing the verbiage of our destination packages to include events and wording indicated that it was great for mediating, yoga, health life lessons, and more. The Development Team then re-estimated the time required to complete each task based on the new requirements and worked on them incrementally while adhering to the initial deadline set prior to the changes.

Effective communication was key to the project's success. I encouraged collaboration among team members by ensuring that everyone had a voice during the Scrum events and each team remained on the same page for the final product. During the Sprint Planning meeting, I facilitated the discussion by asking open-ended questions and ensuring that everyone had an opportunity to share their ideas, which allowed for plenty of discussion amongst different team members and leaders. Additionally, I used various communication outlets between meetings and weekly emails that summarized what was discussed in the meetings to ensure that everyone was informed and up to date on the project's progress and where our pain points were at that were creating barriers.

The scrum events, such as the daily scrum, sprint planning, sprint review, and sprint retrospective, were instrumental in ensuring that the project was completed successfully. The use of Agile principles, such as prioritizing the customer and stakeholder’s needs, collaboration amongst the various team members and leaders, helped the team stay focused and motivated throughout the project. All while remaining adaptive to the changing needs of the customer and adhering to the projected product deadline that was originally set.

The Scrum-agile approach allowed the team to respond quickly to changing requirements and deliver the project incrementally, ensuring that the customer's needs were met. The use of Scrum events and Agile principles helped the team stay focused and motivated throughout the project. One of the cons of the Scrum-agile approach was that it required constant communication and collaboration among team members. Although, scrum meetings were being held regularly and emails were sent out outlining what was discussed in the meetings if team members weren’t vocal to their leaders and certain barriers were never brought forth then it could make it easy to skip over small issues that could cascade into larger issues due to lack of communication. Another reason is that scrum meetings are only held for about 1 hour. It can be difficult to gather all the needed information within a 1-hour window thus leaving smaller issues behind as the focus shifts to larger issues, product progress, and meeting deadlines.

Considering the success of the SNHU Travel project and how the team was able to remain at a high level of adaptability leading the way for a wellness and health travel booking application, I believe that the Scrum-agile approach was the best approach for this project. It allowed the team to respond quickly to changing requirements and deliver the project incrementally, ensuring that the customer's needs were met.