**Sprint Review and Retrospective: SNHU Travel Project**

This document provides a Sprint Review and Retrospective of the SNHU Travel project, highlighting the application of Scrum-Agile roles, completion of user stories, handling of project interruptions, communication practices, organizational tools, and an evaluation of the Scrum-Agile process. As the Scrum Master, I will summarize, analyze, and draw conclusions on the work completed during the development.

The success of the SNHU Travel project was a result of the collective efforts of various roles within our Scrum-Agile team. Each role contributed significantly to the project's achievements.

**Product Owner**

The Product Owner played a crucial role in defining and prioritizing user stories while ensuring that our development aligned with SNHU Travel's vision. For example, they prioritized the development of the booking system, a critical feature for the project. Their continuous communication with the client and feedback ensured that we focused on the most vital aspects.

**Scrum Master**

As the Scrum Master, my role included facilitating all Scrum events, removing impediments, and maintaining a collaborative atmosphere within the team. For instance, when there was a misunderstanding about a user story, I clarified it, preventing wasted effort and keeping the team aligned.

**Development Team**

The Development Team exhibited exceptional technical expertise and actively participated in Sprint Planning, Daily Stand-ups, and Sprint Reviews. They self-organized to complete user stories and collaborated effectively, such as by pair programming to solve complex problems. Their consistent commitment to delivering user stories that adhered to the definition of done was pivotal to the project's success.

**Stakeholders**

The active involvement of stakeholders, including SNHU Travel, was indispensable for refining user stories and providing invaluable feedback during Sprint Reviews. This engagement facilitated continuous improvement, resulting in more relevant and valuable features.

The Scrum-Agile approach was instrumental in bringing each user story to completion. The iterative nature of Scrum allowed for continuous feedback and improvement. For example, during the sprint reviews, the team received feedback on the booking system, which they used to enhance the feature in subsequent sprints. The regular interaction with the Product Owner ensured that user stories were well-defined and prioritized according to business needs.

**Handling Interruptions**

When the project was interrupted and changed direction, the Scrum-Agile approach was flexible enough to accommodate these changes. For instance, when the requirement for a mobile app was introduced mid-project, the team incorporated it into the product backlog and worked on it in the next sprint. This flexibility allowed us to adapt quickly to changing requirements without derailing the project.

Communication

We communicated throughout discussions, messaging and feedback within which it was an Effective key to our team's success. Some of that practices were:

**discussions**

on Thursdays, each team member shared their progress and any blockers they were facing. This transparency helped the team collaborate to solve problems. For example, when I was the developer and encountered a technical issue, another team member suggested a solution based on their experience, which resolved the issue promptly.

**Sprint Reviews**

Sprint Planning and Reviews provided time for the team to discuss work and review tasks. These meetings ensured everyone was on the same page and allowed for the exchange of feedback, which was crucial for continuous improvement, and it would happen by reading each other’s discussionsand evaluating depending on roles.

**An example of our communication replying to the product owner was:**

“For my part, I would like to recommend the implementation of User Stories and Continuous Integration (CI) practices. User Stories are crucial in capturing the specific needs of our users in a clear and actionable format. This practice will help us understand the 'why' behind our tasks, ensuring that we always align with user expectations and deliver real value. Continuous Integration will allow us to detect issues early and frequently through automated testing and integration. By integrating code regularly, we can identify and resolve conflicts quickly, ensuring that our software remains robust and functional throughout the development process."

This example illustrates the importance of active collaboration and communication between the Product Owner and the development team, ensuring that we remain aligned and responsive to stakeholder needs.

Evaluating Agile Process

* Pros:

- Flexibility: Allowed for smooth transitions when changes were needed.

- Continuous Improvement: Regular feedback loops enabled ongoing enhancements.

- High Customer Satisfaction: Stakeholder engagement ensured that the final product met client expectations.

* Cons:

- Learning Curve: As this was a new methodology for the team, there was an initial adjustment period.

- Communication Overhead: High level of communication required can be challenging for some teams.

Despite these challenges, the Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for this project. The flexibility and ability to adapt to changes mid-project were particularly beneficial. If the project had been more straightforward without changes, a waterfall approach might have been considered. However, given the dynamic nature of the requirements, the Agile methodology proved to be the right choice.

**Conclusion**

In summary, the success of the SNHU Travel project was a collective effort, with each role in our Scrum-Agile team playing a crucial part. The Product Owner ensured client alignment, the Scrum Master addressed impediments, the Development Team displayed technical prowess, and the stakeholders contributed valuable insights. The Scrum-Agile methodology fostered a transparent and collaborative environment that was essential for the project's success. This project demonstrated the potential of the Scrum-Agile approach within our organization and provided valuable lessons for future projects.

* References

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