Thanh Nguyen

CIS 440

IT Profession Scavenger Hunt

1. **SQL Server Analysis Best Practices**

This particular meeting was one of many tech seminars during an event called Desert Code Camp. Desert Code Camp ran for about 6-7 hours and had several topic presentations each hour. It was on October 18th at Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

The particular session that I attended had a speaker named Alan Faulkner who talked about various best practices for SQL Server analysis. He went over different techniques such as using relational data source design, dimension designs, cube designs, and partition designs depending on the situation at hand. Certain designs have do’s and don’ts such as when using a dimension design, one should avoid using ErrorConfigurations with a KeyDuplicate. Also if analyzing with cube design then one should avoid creating multiple measure groups that have the same dimensionality and granularity.

I thought the presentation was straight forward and simple, however it required extensive knowledge in SQL Server analysis before sitting down and listening to the speaker. There were very few people that attended this session and most were middle aged men and women who seemed very experienced in the topic. Overall it seems to be very informative if you had extensive knowledge of the analysis practices but it isn’t recommended for a beginner to sit in this presentation.

1. **SCRUM Meeting – The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team**

This particular meeting was hosted by the user group PHXSUG, Phoenix SCRUM User Group. Since this was hosted by the North group of PHXSUG, the meeting was in Axosoft in Scottsdale on November 4th. This was my first time attending the PHXSUG meetings.

For this particular meeting, we had a guest speaker, Michael Lorsch, who went over the topic of The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team, which was a book written by Patrick Lencioni. In short, he goes over what the 5 main points that a team has trouble with and must build together in order to succeed. The 5 points are: trust, conflict, commitment, accountability, and results in that order. Each point is dependent on the one before it. To create constructive ideological conflict so that the team can discuss and make a product better, that team needs to have trust.

Overall I think this meeting was great and very informative. The guest speaker was very kind and really engaged with the audience. The topic at hand was easy to understand and can be applicable to even beginners. There was also free food and refreshments as well so that no one would go hungry during the presentation. There was another thing I noticed unique to the PHXSUG was that there is a round table (room) for people to speak about job opportunities at their work place. I think this is wonderful and opens a lot of networking opportunities as well as help those who need a job.

1. **SCRUM Meeting – Scrum Master Panel**

This is my 2nd PHXSUG meeting that I have attended to and was located at InfusionSoft in Chandler on November 20th. This meeting had instead of one particular topic, it involved a whole panel of 4 Scrum Masters who would answer all questions that the host and audience had. The panel had a variety of people working at different places including one at Liberty Distribution, Ticketmaster, InfusionSoft, and Workiva. The panel had to answer questions such the challenges of a S. Master and the optimal number of teams that a S. Master can handle. The panel seemed to have an agreement of 2 teams for number of teams but had different answers for their own unique challenges. One master explained that teams tend to lack ownership of their actions, so nothing gets done. Other masters said that a lot of the SCRUM teams can butt heads with each other because of different mentalities and don’t solve their arguments. Another master said that some of his SCRUM users on his teams lacked maturity since they just came out of college and did not have the experience on tackling problems.

Overall I really liked this and the other PHXSUG meeting that I went to. The energy of the group isn’t boring and yet it is also very informative at the same time. The masters seemed to have great knowledge to share as well as fun stories to tell of their experiences. I also got a tour of InfusionSoft which was definitely a treat.