## ­­EduViz – Agile Approach

*EduViz* does not lend itself well to the ‘Waterfall’ approach, or traditional software development. With data visualization in particular, many design questions cannot be answered until data exploration and preliminary visualization has been conducted. In complex visualizations, the data informs the design, and iterations of design will give better understanding of the dataset. As questions arise from the dataset, and further exploration is needed, the design of future visualizations will depend on discoveries made – e.g., if an interesting trend is discovered regarding a specific loan (perhaps the Pell Grant), then the visualization can focus more extensively on that area.

Waterfall also seems to lack cohesive documentation, an area that is absolutely critical to modern software design. This is particularly relevant for projects that combine multiple computing technologies – in this case Python, R, D3, JavaScript, and more. Moving “up” the waterfall is frowned upon, but modern software development features extensive version control (e.g. GitHub) and allows users to traverse past versions and split code into different branches.

Given the involved nature of development among statisticians and front-end design,