Ed Grier joined the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Business as Dean in March 2010.

Before coming to VCU, Grier spent 29 years with the Walt Disney Company, a member of the Fortune 500. As a top level executive, his work with Disney spanned the globe from Paris to Tokyo, giving him priceless insight into the international perspectives needed for students to flourish now and in the future.

His numerous leadership roles have given him the expertise necessary for successful corporate and school endeavors, including brand management, finance and planning, marketing, public relations, and administration.

As President of Disneyland Resort - an operation that comprises nearly $2 billion in annual revenue, 20,000 employees, and 15 labor unions - he was responsible for growing operating income and cutting costs by record-setting amounts, as well as successfully negotiating eight union agreements to ensure long-term labor stability and growth.

Grier earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Duquesne University in 1977 before starting his career as a CPA and auditor at Ernst and Young. He joined Disney in 1981.

His operational savvy led to numerous appointments including commissioner of the California Travel and Tourism Commission, member of the California Economic Recovery Task Force, and board member of the Children’s Hospital of Orange County, CA. The Black Chamber of Commerce of Orange County honored Grier with the Michael R. Jones Business Impact Award in August 2011.

Since arriving at VCU, Grier has taken an active role in the Central Virginia community, serving as a board member of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, The Richmond Forum, ChildFund International, NVR, Inc., Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce and Middleburg Investment Group. He also serves as a trustee of Brandman University, part of the Chapman University System in California.