



Mike Gillespie, Jr.

Coach Mike Gillespie, Jr., has thoroughly absorbed the values of Coach Mike Gillespie, Sr.: athletic and academic excellence. While Gillespie Sr. directed the TCC men's basketball program – for eleven successful seasons prior to departing for Florida A&M University in 2001 – unprecedented numbers of his athletes went on to continue their education at four-year universities. One was Mike Jr., who was TCC's Scholar Athlete of the Year in 1993. At Morehead State University in Kentucky, where he earned his B.A., he was the Presidential Scholar Athlete Award Winner for 1994.

The younger Gillespie began his coaching career at TCC in 1995 and went on to successful stints at Thomas College and Mercer University. At Mercer, he turned the team around from 4-23 the year before his arrival to 23-6. In 2002, he joined his father at FAMU as assistant coach, where the team quickly set a season record for victories and won the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship in 2004.