



**JOYCE MASCHINSKI JOINS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL CONSERVATION**



This September, Dr. Joyce Maschinski, Fairchild’s conservation ecologist and head of the South Florida Conservation team, joined the board of directors of Miami’s Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC). A longtime collaborator with Fairchild, IRC is well known for its cutting-edge work on regional conservation issues, especially involving rare plants and ecological restoration. Bringing leaders like Dr. Maschinski onto the IRC board represents just the first phase of the institution’s planned leadership expansion. “IRC has accomplished an incredible amount in its first 25 years,” says George Gann, IRC’s president and executive director. “But we cannot rest on our laurels. Global change demands ever more action and IRC must evolve to meet this challenge. We need leaders to step forward at this critical juncture and we are both honored and grateful to have Joyce join us this fall.”



Jason Downing mentoring students during the 2010-2011 Fairchild Challenge Lake Workshop

**MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS**

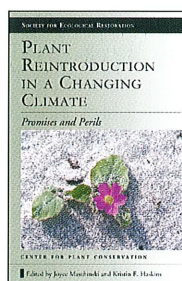
In August, Jason Downing joined The Fairchild Challenge middle and high school teams as a graduate student. Mr. Downing will mentor students who participate in The Fairchild Challenge and inspire them to pursue education and careers in the sciences. He is currently working toward a Ph.D. in biology from Florida International University under the advisement of Fairchild’s ecologist Dr. Hong Liu. Mr. Downing earned his bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Kansas. After graduating, he completed post-baccalaureate studies in biology at the University of Miami. In 2010, he completed a master’s thesis at FIU under the direction of Dr. Liu in the Department of Earth and the Environment.



**NEW FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE LOGO**

The Fairchild Challenge is celebrating its 10th anniversary by launching a new logo. Our graphic design team worked to create a new logo that would capture the

message of The Fairchild Challenge—a competitive, multidisciplinary environmental education program beginning in elementary school and continuing through college. The logo’s new look illustrates “growth and integration with the incorporation of the leaves into one another and the letters, as well as by the leaf symbol growing out of the ‘H’ in Fairchild,” explains Micah Milner, the lead designer of the logo. “The color and leaves shown throughout are used in an attempt to emphasize the role of the environment. Finally, use of a small leaf built into a larger one is meant as a metaphor for mentorship and education.”



**CLIMATE CHANGE AND PLANT INTRODUCTION: NEW BOOK HAS FAIRCHILD CONNECTIONS**

One of the main priorities for Fairchild’s conservation team is research related to the effect of climatic change on plant biodiversity. The research activities in this area have yielded a new book—*Plant Reintroduction in a Changing Climate: Promises and Perils*—due out in December 2011. Fairchild’s own Dr. Joyce Maschinski and Northern Arizona University’s Dr. Kristin E. Haskins edited the book, which presents a comprehensive review of plant reintroduction projects and practices, the circumstances of their successes or failures, lessons learned and the potential role for reintroductions in preserving species threatened by climate change. In the book, contributors examine current plant reintroduction practices, from selecting appropriate source material and recipient sites to assessing population demography. Published by Island Press and sponsored by the Center for Plant Conservation.