

SOUTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL & RURAL LEADERSHIP, INC.

For Immediate Release: January 25, 2012

Media Contact: Lori Cope, 605-216-6178

Lentsch Elected Chairman of South Dakota Agricultural & Rural Leadership, Inc.

BROOKINGS, S.D – Lucas Lentsch, Pierre, has been elected Chairman of South Dakota Agricultural & Rural Leadership, Inc., (SDARL). Lentsch currently serves as the Director of Agricultural Development with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture.

“We’re very fortunate to have a great cross section of South Dakota leaders serving on the SDARL Board of Directors,” said Craig Dybedahl, current board member and outgoing chairman of SDARL. “I am looking forward to working with Lucas in order to maintain the momentum of the program while advancing SDARL’s impact within South Dakota’s rural communities and the agriculture industry.”

Lentsch brings ag business, political, and community development experience to SDARL. He has a family farm background from Marshall County and received his B.S. in Agriculture from South Dakota State University. Lentsch is a graduate of South Dakota Agricultural & Rural Leadership, Inc. He and his wife, Laura, have four children.

Other SDARL Board members include Vice-chairman Monte Lucas, Rapid City, Secretary/Treasurer Travis Bies, Fairburn, Todd Wilkinson, DeSmet, Haven Stuck, Rapid City, Jarrod Johnson, Corson, Bill Slovek, Philip, and Craig Dybedahl, Colton.

South Dakota Agricultural and Rural Leadership, Inc., (SDARL) is a private, not-for-profit organization, dedicated to identifying and developing leadership for agriculture and rural communities in order to enhance the quality of life in South Dakota. Applications for Class VII are now being accepted through March 31, 2012. For additional information, visit us online at <http://sdarl.org/>.

#30#