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## **FCA appoints Dennis Shields as chief economist**

McLEAN, Va., June 27, 2018 — The Farm Credit Administration has appointed Dennis Shields to serve as associate director of the Agricultural and Economic Policy Team and as FCA's chief economist. He will succeed Dr. Steve Gabriel, who is retiring July 3 after 34 years of federal service.

Dennis has been with FCA since 2015, serving as senior economist in the Office of Regulatory Policy. He received FCA's Impact Award in 2016 for his immediate contributions to the agency's mission.

"I know Dennis will provide excellent leadership as the agency's chief economist," said FCA Chairman and CEO Dallas P. Tonsager. "His experience and knowledge have already benefited our work here at the Farm Credit Administration."

Before joining FCA, Dennis held agricultural policy and economist positions at the Congressional Research Service, USDA's Farm Service Agency, and USDA's Economic Research Service. Dennis has Master of Science degrees in industrial administration and agricultural economics from Purdue University, and a Bachelor of Science in agricultural engineering from Kansas State University. He recently completed the Leadership for a Democratic Society program at the Federal Executive Institute.

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The Farm Credit Administration is the safety and soundness regulator of the Farm Credit System. The System consists of two government-sponsored enterprises — a nationwide network of cooperative banks and associations established in 1916, and a secondary market entity known as the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac), which was established in 1988. The System's borrower-owned banks and associations provide credit to farmers, ranchers, residents of rural communities, agricultural and rural utility cooperatives, and other eligible and creditworthy borrowers. Farmer Mac provides a secondary market for agricultural real estate loans, rural housing mortgage loans, and certain rural utility loans. Members of the FCA board are Dallas P. Tonsager, board chairman and CEO; Jeffery S. Hall; and Glen R. Smith.

Note: FCA news releases are available on the web at [www.fca.gov](http://www.fca.gov).