



March 3, 2026

The Minnesota Soybean Growers Association is the oldest state soybean association in the Country. Founded in 1962 we have been advocating for the needs of Minnesota's soybean farmers for over 60 years. MSGA has long been proponents of agricultural education programs and efforts to increase the knowledge base in the state's agricultural sector.

MSGA is happy to support the request of the University of Minnesota for a stronger St. Paul Campus. MSGA has seen large investments in neighboring state's agricultural schools. We, along with our Soy Checkoff, host students from SDSU at Commodity Classic each year. Commodity Classic is the national Soybean, Corn, Wheat, and Sorghum, annual meeting and the largest farm show in the country. Regularly one half to two thirds of the students on the trip are from Minnesota, but attend SDSU.

The U of M's St. Paul Campus needs revitalization. Neighboring state institutions (NDSU, SDSU, ISU) have made large investments in modern buildings on their campuses. Whether for teaching about markets and exchanges, or animal agricultural production, these modern facilities attract students. These investments show a commitment to the agricultural school and the dedication to having a strong agricultural economy in the state.

These investments also help with the teaching environment and help the U of M retain top faculty to teach the next generation of farmers, agronomists, veterinarians and other necessary ag sector employees. The St. Paul Campus is in need of an investment in its infrastructure to help keep it a leader in agricultural education.

MSGA is happy to support the U of M's request for improvements at the St. Paul Campus. We hope this is the first in many requests by the University to revitalize and modernize its agricultural education infrastructure.

Sincerely

Darin Johnson
MSGA President