

During the visit, the delegation engaged with Astria Learning's executive and technical teams to examine the strategic foundations of digital campus development. Discussions explored key areas including:

- eCampus strategy and governance integration
- Online programme delivery frameworks
- Student support and engagement systems
- Long-term sustainability of eCampus operations
- Scalable technology infrastructure for higher education

The delegation also toured Astria Learning's operational offices in Lilongwe and Zomba, where they interacted with technical and administrative teams supporting eCampus implementations across partner universities in Africa.

These discussions focused on how universities can leverage digital infrastructure to respond to growing enrolment demand, limited physical campus capacity and the increasing need for flexible, technology-enabled learning models.

As part of the engagement, the delegation visited the [University of Malawi](#) (UNIMA) to

experience the [UNIMA eCampus](#), a flagship example of how a public university can successfully extend its academic programmes into the digital space through a strategic partnership with Astria Learning.

Through this platform, the University of Malawi has expanded access to accredited degree programmes for students who are unable to attend on-campus classes due to geographic, professional or personal constraints. The initiative enables learners to pursue recognised qualifications through structured online learning while maintaining the academic standards of the university.

[Dr. Peter Banda](#), [Vice-Chancellor](#) of the University of Malawi, highlighted the role of collaboration in expanding educational opportunity:

"Universities thrive when they work together rather than in isolation. By sharing experiences, best practices and resources, we strengthen not only our respective institutions but also the broader nation, advancing knowledge for the development of our nations."

Reflecting on the importance of cross-institutional collaboration, [Dr. Peter Banda](#), [Vice-Chancellor](#)

of the University of Malawi, emphasised the value of partnerships in advancing education and research across the continent:

"Universities flourish when they collaborate rather than operate in isolation. Partnerships across institutions and regions allow us to share knowledge, strengthen research capacity and develop solutions to Africa's most pressing challenges. Engagements such as this one demonstrate how technology and cooperation can expand educational opportunities for thousands of students

across the continent.”

[Austria Learning](#)’s CEO, Dr. Michael Schindler, noted that collaboration between universities and digital infrastructure partners is increasingly critical as institutions respond to rising demand for accessible and flexible higher education.

“Austria Learning’s mission is to empower universities with technology that expands opportunity without compromising quality. Through partnerships such as those with the University of Malawi and the University of Ibadan, we are helping institutions scale education, reach more learners and prepare students for the demands of a rapidly evolving digital world.”

Dr. Michael Schindler, CEO of Austria Learning

The visit highlights the growing role of eCampus-driven learning as universities across Africa explore scalable and resilient models capable of expanding access while maintaining academic excellence.

As higher education systems across the continent confront rising enrolment demand and infrastructure limitations, digital campus platforms are emerging as a critical strategy for extending opportunity without sacrificing institutional credibility.

Partnerships such as those between Austria Learning, the University of Malawi and the University of Ibadan demonstrate how universities across Africa are collaborating to shape the next generation of higher education delivery.

Dr. Michael Schindler, CEO of Austria Learning

The University of Ibadan (UI), established in 1962, is Africa’s largest university and one of the most respected centres of higher learning in Africa. Originally founded as a college of the University of London before becoming an independent institution in 1962, UI has grown into a comprehensive university offering programmes across 17 faculties, including Law, Medicine, Agriculture, Education, Business Administration, Engineering, Arts, Social Sciences, Health Sciences, and Environmental Studies.

With more than 50,000 students and over 140 academic departments, the University of Ibadan remains committed to academic excellence, research and societal impact.

The university continues to expand access to education through initiatives such as its Distance Learning Centre, which supports flexible learning opportunities for students across Nigeria and beyond.

□ <https://ui.edu.ng/>

Dr. Michael Schindler, CEO of Austria Learning

Austria Learning is a global education technology company that partners with universities across more than 50 countries to design and deliver transformative digital learning ecosystems. The company specialises in building comprehensive eCampuses that integrate learning platforms,

student support services, digital libraries and operational infrastructure to enable universities to scale education while maintaining institutional quality and governance.

With a focus on accessibility, affordability and enduring academic excellence, Astria Learning supports institutions seeking structured digital transformation and expanded educational reach.

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