For this online system, we once contacted them for controlled vocabularies, however till now, no response was received. See appendix for email content.

Target / Goal: Scientific social network

Main function: create scientific profile; connect with current and former colleagues; find people and expertise in your network.

Main service exploration:

- **Dashboard**
  - ask a question
    - select the audience: everyone on Epernicus; my institution; research group under the same advisor; lab or any other group
  - update my status
    - status updating is popular recently and become one especially trait of microblogging.
  - share a link
    - providing a way to share with friends what you are interested with your comments.
  - find an expert
    - search experts by controlled vocabularies

- **My profile**
  - basic information
  - Genealogy: generation in academic
  - Expertise (using controlled vocabularies)
    - Topics
    - Materials
    - Methods

- **Message**
- **Groups**
  - sort groups by categories; a list of full groups
  - create a new group

- **Invite**
  - enlarge social network by inviting friends to register here.

Appendix 1

Epernicus: where science meets

http://www.epernicus.com/
Hi, I am a graduate student in School of Library and Information Science, Indiana University Bloomington. I am part of one National Institutes of Health (NIH) project – VIVO. We are going to develop an interdisciplinary national network, which will facilitate the discovery of researchers and collaborators across the country. Institutions will participate in the network by installing VIVO, or by providing semantic web-compliant data to the network. Now my team is focusing on ontology development. We are interested in the controlled vocabulary for the skills of your system. For example, see Kristi’s profile, http://www.epernicus.com/users/2611.

Ontology

If you are interested in VIVO, please refer to one press new in Nature http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/2009/091105/full/nj7269-123a.html, and our VIVO website is at http://vivoweb.org/.

Appendix 2

Screen shot