Term: Interpretant

Quote: I pass now to the [...] essential ingredient of the interpreter, or as I prefer to call it, the interpretant. I might call it the Meaning, since it includes all that the sign really does convey to the interpreter, its entire essential influence, in its capacity as sign. But I prefer, for the present, to use the word “meaning,” – until I can consult the more delicate apprehension of Lady Welby, – for the entire significance the sign conveys, object and interpretant in transiter together, securely boxed up in the sign for delivery. The interpretant is merely so much as the sign itself determines in the interpreter’s mind.

References: MS [R] 318:37-8
Date of Quote: 1907
URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-pragmatism-68