Kathy graduated from MS Carnegie Mellon University (USA) where she also earned her PhD.

She is currently the director of a Bachelor of Science program in the field of fire and explosion at the first U.S. university to have a Bachelor of Science program in Fire Protection Engineering: the "Worcester Polytechnic Institute" (WPI).

As a director, he guides and advises students on their studies, while as a professor he conducts research and of course teaches.

He works with a wide range of professionals including architects, public building officials, fire service codes and regulations bodies to provide a safe environment in which people can live and work.

Previously, she was the leader of the "Building and Fire" project in the research lab at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), where her work focused on issues related to smoke detection, water-based suppression, smoke plume analysis and fire pattern verification with applications in high-rise buildings and hospitals. He also followed the experiments on ecological halon fire-fighting systems and residential fire-fighting systems.

Much of his current research is incorporated into national safety standards. Kathy is a licensed professional engineer, a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, and has mentored hundreds of high school and college students interested in engineering careers. One of Kathy's most notable achievements is U.S. Patent No. 5,103,212, which is a balanced fluid flow delivery system, a life-saving technology used in high-value, mission-critical areas such as NASA's control rooms and other facilities around the world. Kathy's notoriety led to her selection as head of a government commission to study the exit of buildings following the collapse of the World Trade Center. He is currently working on a $3 million National Security Department grant in the area of firefighter security and resource allocation.

Kathy is well-published professionally in archival literature and nationally in print and television media. Her "Advice for Mom on Fire Safety" has been mentioned in "Good Housekeeping" magazine.

Internationally, Dr. Kathy Notarianni is well known and has been invited to speak or conduct research in more than a dozen countries including England, Sweden, Iceland and Japan. In one case during these engagements, she conducted high-stacked fire-fighting experiments at a NATO base in Keflicvick, Iceland, which led to the development of fire safety standards in high-stacked structures used by NASA and the US Navy. Kathy presented her research at international conferences at Oxford University and Cambridge University. In addition to her work in academic and professional environments, Kathy devotes much of her time to serving others. Kathy conducts seminars and symposia for middle and high school girls to introduce them to engineering through practical activities.