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#### Cover picture:

During cytoskeletal preparations for meiosis, spore mother cells in the moss *Funaria* develop microtubule arrays along each plastid, one on either side of the nucleus (upper left – DIC micrograph, upper right – immunofluorescence with anti-tubulin, superimposed on nuclear staining by digital image processing). The plastids then reposition at right angles to each other (lower right – electron micrograph) and the microtubules that lie along them, together with others that have formed between their tips, make a tetrahedral cage around the prophase nucleus (lower left – immunofluorescence view of one face of the tetrahedron). Meiosis ultimately places one haploid nucleus at each vertex (see papers by Busby and Gunning in this issue).

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